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CANADA'S

WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Maclean's

MARCH 24, 1997

The Canadian Patient

HOW *OUR* BOOK
BECAME *THEIR*
MOVIE

PLUS:
OSCAR
PREVIEW

Ralph Fiennes,
Christin Scott Thomas in
The English Patient



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The Canadian Patient

The English Patient, starring Ralph Fiennes and Kristen Scott Thomas, reveals the question: why can't we make hit movies in the same way that we produce top musicals? The box office blues are part of a tough cultural climate that also threatens magazines.



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Klein's cakewalk

The Alberta Tories romped to victory despite years of deep spending cuts. Now, the government must show that it is equally adept at the politics of prosperity.



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Corporate crime buster

Sanitized by businessman Mike Nathanson, York University launches a centre for the study of organized crime.



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Chaos in Albania

As the city reigned as a meat market, the Albanian capital and portland reloaded and foreigners fled by ship and Western military helicopters.

From The Editor

When culture is attacked

The public sector has an indispensable role to play in supporting the nation's cultural life. The words of scholars and artists of all traditions are part of the legacy we pass on to the next generations. There is a national and therefore fiducial responsibility for this legacy.

The call of ancient Canadian nationalism, dismissed by the domination of Canadian culture by the United States? Hardly. Those are the words of President Bill Clinton's committee on the arts and the humanities in a report published last month warning that budget cuts are undermining America's cultural and educational institutions. The timing of the tightly argued 30-page report is crucial—it is late when America remains the economic colossus around the world and re-establishing its cultural hegemony.

One of the chief instruments is the World Trade Organization, which acquired the role of enforcer of economic globalization after the negotiations leading to the signing of the 1994 General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. On one level, the Americans have used the WTO to ensure admissible American values to the world, including competition, a free book and accountability. They have lured entry to the WTO by China on the grounds that its economy is still too highly regulated and subsidized. They have used the world trade body to open up access to the linguistic markets of the world. On another level, the Americans have used the WTO to attack policies designed to protect Canadian culture. It is instructive, however, to note Washington's posture when its own self-interests are under attack: after some of its closest allies and trading partners challenged the ban imposed by the Helms-Bricker Act on Canadian cultural trading with Cuba, the United States announced that it simply would ignore any WTO ruling.

Canada is not in a weaker position. Last week's final report on the so-called split-run issue effectively opens the door to an invasion of the Canadian periodical industry by foreign-owned publications (page 54). The WTO ruling conceded that a cultural's ability "to take measures to protect its cultural identity was not an issue." And Ottawa plans to appeal the ruling. But, in reality, it may



be difficult to sustain a challenge or to comply with the new globalized trade regulations while protecting culture.

And, it might fairly be asked, so what? Giant Canadian firms like Rogers and Telemedia, which between them own more than 65 magazines, take their fair share of the annual \$200 million magazine pie. From whom do they need protection? The Canadian music industry, which exports Canadian sound to the world, is thriving, part of the \$3 billion in export sales of Canadian culture in 1995 alone. But what blurs entrepreneurs like the WTO do not recognize is that not all cultural industries sing from the same sheet. The strength of the Canadian periodical publishing sector is its commitment to stories that travel well in Canada, but not necessarily in a global market. Colleen Dine and Amanda Marshall may be big on the airwaves in Buffalo and Zandvoort, but stories about a B.C. garden in spring or the GST have a decidedly domestic appeal. On that basis, publications like this one—owned by Rogers and with a weekly circulation of 500,000 and a total readership of two million—do well despite a highly competitive market, where 60 per cent of subscriber copies and 80 per cent of copies sold on newsstands are foreign, usually American. Canadians do want to read stories about themselves and they pay to do so. But the profit margin—averaging about 5 per cent for magazines—is modest compared with many industries, and depends heavily on advertising revenue. If foreign publications are allowed to sell ads in Canada at reduced rates without the cost of generating Canadian editorial content in a split-run edition, our advertisers' pockets, more advertising dollars will flow out of the country in the wake of the WTO ruling. Canadians and the federal government will decide whether to take such concerns. Those of us who in Canadian publishing have a conflict of interest in raising the question. We can only hope that we are not alone in having a vested interest in the answer.

Robert Lewis

Newsroom Notes:

Despair and optimism

It seems one thing to win the Booker Prize. Another to see your novel made into a movie with 12 Oscar nominations. But last week, when the reverence surrounding *The English Patient* became the butt of jokes on *Snatched*, Caro-



Michael Ondaatje, smiling

lin author Michael Ondaatje had truly made his mark on American pop culture. The movie, a U.S. production, is a triumph for Canadian literature. However, when Senior Writer Brian D. Johnson learned that Canadians

had tried, and failed, to get the rights to the book, he began to ask why our feature film industry, unlike television and music, is

still waiting for mainstream success. This week's cover package, organized and edited by Senior Editor Patricia Huxley, examines the art and politics of a largely unprotected industry that sits on the sidelines of Hollywood. "I found wild extremes of despair and optimism," says Johnson, who interviewed producers, directors and industry officials. "Everyone's waiting for one Canadian movie to hit it big. And *The English Patient* has helped some film-makers realize that the best material may be sitting right under their noses."



BOSS
HUGO BOSS

Photograph by Richard Avedon



Toronto's Eaton Centre: great-grandpa's Negative Passions

Eaton's mistakes

Like generations of Canadians, I too had my first job at Eaton's, first as Christmas, then regular part-time and finally for three years, full time. The lessons I learned certainly stayed with me, but it seems Eaton's lost sight of them some time ago ("The empire strikes out," Cover, March 10). What used to be studied was what the customer wanted, and a broad selection was considered to be essential. If you see an attractive item now, it won't be stocked in a range of sizes. Finding a clerk is impossible, but you can be certain there will be security personnel peering at you through the racks. Any clerk you can find will be supremely knowledgeable about the merchandise and probably fractious because he or she is responsible for a number of departments. Many

cash desks sport signs instructing customers to go to another desk, also unsatisfactory. It should surprise no-one that Eaton's is going under. Perhaps assessment should be reserved for the fact it didn't happen sooner.

Nancy S. Prince,
Ottawa

I find it doubly funny that all the Eaton's senior management in your picture are white men, most of them of a "certain age." I wonder how much time any of them has ever spent shopping in department stores. It is no wonder Eaton's doesn't know who their customers are or what we want.

Nancy Caplan,
Toronto

One can't help but wonder why the Hudson's Bay Co. has managed to survive the big U.S. retailers, such as Wal-Mart, and yet Eaton's sales and revenues have gone down. A week does not go by that I don't receive a flyer from the Bay, advertising yet another sale, but I can't remember the last time I received one from Eaton's. But the great-grandchildren of Theodore Tilton inherited his aggressive sales and advertising methods, they wouldn't find themselves rubbing great-grandpa's dust in much as they have lately.

Colleen M. Ladouceur,
Montréal

Hangars-on

Allen Fethermighen, laureate that he is, had a lot of his fellow scribblers were locked up in a chilly hangar with ice-cold roof and bad odour ("My be-lie-fists are no longer made in secret," March 3). The bad they didn't throw the key away and leave them there; the government missed another golden opportunity.

Gordon Ford,
Clayton, Ont.

As a member of 742 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron, which meets in the hangar where the budget lookout took place, I must take issue with Allen Fethermighen's comments. This hangar is not cold, or abandoned, it is well-heated, dry

Propagating myths

As a welfare mother, I could not believe the comments made by letter writer Delinda Brevic regarding the state of the nation's poor ("Affording children," March 10). My family was not always in welfare. When the decision was made to have our first two children, we had a secure household income. But due to circumstances beyond our control (downsizing), that secure income was suddenly gone and we were forced, like many other families profiled in the Feb. 24 special report, "Striving up poor," to ask help from the government. And when we found out about our third child, we had to make do with what we had. I am truly appalled at the mere suggestion that people in this situation should consider having abortions. That comment could have been used as part of the Nazi propaganda machine back in the Thirties and Forties. Should those who can't afford children be restricted from having them? How much does a family have to make per year before they are allowed to have children? As for sex education, it is not the lack of it that runs put people in the poor continent, but the lack of stable, well-paying jobs that has forced people to seek help from government agencies.

Kelly-Lee Rose Carson,
Elkhart Lake, Ont.

and used frequently by the air cadet squadron and the government as a reception centre.

Don Foster,
Emeryville, Ont. M

Constructive cloning

Your March 10 insight into the cloning of Dolly is truly typical of the sensitive nature of meeting the demands of a fearful public ("The Dolly debate," Special Report, March 10). The wisdom that society should accept is that the further understanding of cellular genetics can have a powerful positive impact. If the Bostlin research team were able to isolate pieces of genetic material that were linked with cancer resistance, would they not become the next Biotin and Beak? The key issue is constructive use of knowledge.

John F. Winkler,
Knoxville, Ont. M

My daughter was born with congenital deafness resulting from any contact with rubella in the first trimester. This has left her blind and developmentally delayed. To say



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Healthy Bites

WHICH OF THESE FOODS SHOULDN'T YOU EAT?

Brussels sprouts
Chocolate sandwiches
Apples
Fried eggs
Butter
Granola
Brie cheese

This is a trick question. The truth is that there is no such thing as a food you shouldn't eat - all foods can fit into a healthful pattern of eating. No, for that matter, is there such a thing as a "good" food or a "bad" food or a "miracle" food.

ZAPPING

A COLD WITH ZINC

Can zinc really cure a cold and is it safe?

While zinc supplements may reduce the duration of some cold symptoms, nausea, mouth irritation and a bad taste are common side effects. Nor is there evidence that zinc can prevent colds. In addition to this, taking even moderately more zinc than you need on a regular basis can interfere with mineral absorption and lower levels of HDL (the "good" cholesterol).

However, zinc is a nutrient likely to be short in some Canadian diets. The safest course is to get yours from food, some of the best sources of which are liver, red meat, oysters, firm cheese and nuts.

Low carbohydrate diets: They're ba-ack...

Remember the low-carbohydrate (high-protein, high-fat) diet of the 1960s? Some popular new diet books herald its return. Other equally popular books promote the "fat-free" method of losing weight. Which is right? Neither - each is too extreme. The only sensible way to lose weight, long-term, is to eat a balanced diet, reduce energy (calories) intake in relation to energy output - and to exercise.

From the Dairy Bureau of Canada

NEWS FLASH

A NEW LOOK AT BONE MASS AND EXERCISE

Physical activity is important in building and maintaining bone mass. But people with low calcium diets may not significantly increase their bone mineral density no matter how hard they exercise. This is according to a study, conducted by the University of Cincinnati Medical Center and Children's Hospital Medical Center. The report which reviewed 17 published trials, indicated that the beneficial effects of increased physical activity on bone may only be realized when individuals ingest at least 1000 mg of calcium a day.

The Osteoporosis Society of Canada agrees that milk products are the richest source of the calcium our bodies absorb best.

300 MG OF CALCIUM

100 mg in a glass of milk



THE MAIL

notes, there appears to be little hope for more hockey executives and "league" managers.

Art Flander,
Thunder Bay, Ont.

It is the responsibility of every citizen (and, yes, corporations) to report to police any instance or allegation of abuse. For Maple Leaf Gardens administration to unequivocally state that its best responsibility had been expended by an independent, and obviously incomplete, investigation is a perpetuation of deceit.

April Dole,
Kamloops, B.C.

'Who owns minerals?'

The single question of importance that arises from the gold discovery in Indonesia (Covered, grain, gold), Cover, March 28), and, incidentally, also from the silver find in Volcan, Nfld., and Lac de Gras, N.W.T., is: who owns minerals? Surely minerals form an integral part of the land and one could argue that the rightful owners are the people who have lived on the land for thousands of years.

Ralph Ariss,
Professor, geology department,
University of Ottawa,
Ottawa

Pride of place

Archie Angus-Ruben's sculpture *Spirits of the Land* made quite a stir in the lobby of the Alberta Stock Exchange and not, as the article indicated, in Calgary Place ("Swinging taxes," Cover, Feb. 24). The sculpture is a stylized Inukshuk, representative of the landmarks used in the Arctic to guide travellers and hunters, is the best of our knowledge, is the largest Inukshuk sculpture in Canada.

M. Dawson Hill,
Calgary

Time is all he got

In your *Passages* story (March 17) about the rabble against Arlie Shaw's claim against my firm, Arlie Shaw, Time & All You've Got, the judge stated that Mr Shaw could not unilaterally rewrite the original agreements between us. The judge further stated that Mr Shaw's claim against me was triggered only by the film's Academy Award. The judge also ruled that I had lived up to all my obligations concerning the film and that Mr Shaw's claims were unfounded.

Brynn Bertram,
Toronto



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Opening Notes

Edited by BARBARA ROCKENS



Victoria Falls: a swelling to tourists

Dissing Zimbabwe?

The headline was odd. "Canada launches anti-Zimbabwe campaign." So was the source—the front page of a February edition of *The Nation's* *Letter*, published weekly in the capital of Harare by President Robert Mugabe's political party. The accompanying story claimed that the department of foreign affairs in Ottawa is trying to scare tourists away from Zimbabwe through its travel information reports for Canadian sightseers. While the travel advisory cautions visitors about such things as potential theft and crime risks—especially in tourist areas such as Victoria Falls—officials in Foreign Affairs insist that there is no

plot to deter visitors and travellers from visiting Zimbabwe. In fact, the department distributes similar reports on 150 countries, including such G7 giants as France, Japan and the United Kingdom. Although Ian McKinley, a spokesman for the Canadian High Commission in Zimbabwe, does admit that a 1995 report inaccurately stated that yellow fever was prevalent in Zimbabwe, he insists the error has since been corrected. "The strange thing about the whole business is that we get our information from the World Health Organization, and they get all their information from the government of Zimbabwe," says McKinley. "The story could only have been 'Zimbabwe attacks Zimbabwe.'"

School of litigation

A case before the B.C. Supreme Court is taking student-teacher conflict to a new level. Vancouver lawyer Nathan Ganspeth has filed a suit on behalf of his 15-year-old son, also named Nathan, against school principal Patricia Crowley, accusing her of gross negligence and negligence in a mild manner. The unusual case arose after the younger Ganspeth, a Grade 7 student at E. Ewart Elementary in Vancouver, told a fellow student in late February, "You started

your suit." Crowley, who interpreted the statement as sexual harassment, expelled Ganspeth for two days and put a letter in his file. The Ganspeths filed the suit after the principal turned down their request that she act aside the expunction and remove the letter from their statement of claims, they say that Crowley "erred in law in equating uttering a profanity with sexual harassment." The letter, it claims, constituted libel. The statement also says that, in addition to wrongfully denying the younger Ganspeth the right to attend



Campbell in a French hat—not naked

A fox and her fur

In 1994, *People* for the Ethical Treatment of Animals scored a publicity coup when five top models, including Naomi Campbell, posed nude for her organization's "We'll rather go naked than wear fur" campaign. Since then, other supermodels, including Cindy Crawford, Tyra Banks and Claudia Schiffer, have also donated their images and time—worth as much as \$20,000 a day—to the anti-fur campaign. But in the meantime, according to the Ottawa-based Fur Institute of Canada, one-week global fur sales have been making a comeback. The latest sign of that turn around was the Furda fashion show in Milan, which Campbell opened on March 7 wearing a fur coat. Executives at Nordica, Via Veneto PETA were not amused, and last week sent a letter to Campbell asking her to "deserve to the runway animal-friendly fashion leaders who have both hearts and spines." The letter also informed her she was "banned" as a spokesperson. The fur is lying.

Missing a Bowell

It is not everyday that a firm letter becomes part of a graced collection. But when Barry Wilson received just such a letter personally signed from Prime Minister Lester Pearson in 1964, it was Wilson on a quest to gather original signatures of all 20 Canadian leaders. Today, the Ottawa-based journalist, 48, is missing only one: that of Sir Mackenzie Bowell, a Tory prime minister from 1894 to 1896. Bowell was also grand master of the Orange Lodge in Canada and owner of the Belleville *Intelligencer*, an Ontario daily. Yet Bowell's signature remains elusive. "It really is bizarre," says Wilson. "He must have signed thousands of documents." Still, Wilson is proud of his collection, which includes a Sir John A. Macdonald signature that the former prime minister dashed off while in Quebec City preparing for the historic 1864 Charlottetown conference. Wilson also has an 1896 letter from Sir Wilfrid Laurier to a Liberal MP warning him not to miss a vote in the House of Commons. Email will never be so collectible.



In a Toronto hat: some as snug as ever

A huff and a puff

He has a quiet, bureaucratic way of putting things. "A minority of bar and restaurant owners are resistant to the by-law," says Toronto's municipal officer of health, Dr. David McRae, who is charged with enforcing the city's new smoking ban in eating and drinking establishments. "But we stand up to work with them." By that, he means that up to 25 by-law enforcement officers will visit all 4,300 bars and restaurants in the city over the next eight weeks to ensure that owners are informed of the by-law's provisions and penalties—fines of up to \$5,000 against establishments and up to \$250 for patrons. Although the by-law is not yet being strictly enforced, a Metro Toronto police officer had the first two charges last week. That may lead to clearer air in some places. But not everywhere. Robbie Wilson, owner of *Whisper's Bar & Grill*, says smokers help keep his business afloat. "Denying and smoking go hand in hand," he says. "What am I going to do, kick out my customers?"

BEST-SELLERS

- FICITION**
1. *The Poetics*, John Gardner (2)
 2. *Call of the Wild*, Jack London (10)
 3. *Call of the Wild*, Jack London (10)
 4. *Call of the Wild*, Jack London (10)
 5. *The Golden Rule*, Guy de Maupassant (10)
 6. *Call of the Wild*, Jack London (10)
 7. *Call of the Wild*, Jack London (10)
 8. *Call of the Wild*, Jack London (10)
 9. *Call of the Wild*, Jack London (10)
 10. *Call of the Wild*, Jack London (10)
- NONFICTION**
1. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)
 2. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)
 3. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)
 4. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)
 5. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)
 6. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)
 7. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)
 8. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)
 9. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)
 10. *Book, Book, Book*, David Foster (1)

The ins and outs of dying

TIMELY DEATH In *Ready Death*, Victoria journalist Anne Mulvan offers an unflinching look at the right to die debate. The book includes interviews with doctors, ethicists, lawmakers and advocacy groups, as well as testimonials from eight patients who tried to exercise some control over their final days.

POP MOVIES

Vengeance, L.A. style

Henry Keitel. Timothy Dalton. Stephen Dorff. And Benji Apple. *Justice*, a postmodern film noir set in Los Angeles underworld. When a jewelry heist goes wrong and a businessman is killed, Keitel, who plays his older brother Jay, sets out on a violent quest for revenge.

- Box office in Canada (ranked according to box-office receipts during the seven days that ended on March 13. In brackets: number of screens currently showing)
- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. <i>Justice</i> (Keitel) | \$1,181,780 |
| 2. <i>Deep Blue</i> (Dorff) | \$1,128,770 |
| 3. <i>The English Patient</i> (Keitel) | \$1,101,360 |
| 4. <i>Benji Apple</i> (Keitel) | \$1,019,470 |
| 5. <i>Benji Apple</i> (Keitel) | \$1,019,470 |
| 6. <i>Benji Apple</i> (Keitel) | \$1,019,470 |
| 7. <i>Benji Apple</i> (Keitel) | \$1,019,470 |
| 8. <i>Benji Apple</i> (Keitel) | \$1,019,470 |
| 9. <i>Benji Apple</i> (Keitel) | \$1,019,470 |
| 10. <i>Benji Apple</i> (Keitel) | \$1,019,470 |

Pages



CHARGED: Russian immigrant Michael Markov, 38, with the January roadside murder of entertainer Bill Cosby's only son, Brian, 27, in Las Vegas. An informant embroiled by a \$100,000 reward offered by The National Enquirer provided tips that led to the arrest.

SELECTED: As Mother Teresa's successor, Sister Winifred, 63, in Calcutta, India, after an eight-week selection process. Born a Hindu in the northern state of Bihar, Sister Winifred joined Mother Teresa's order, The Missionaries of Charity, upon completion of her legal training.

KNIGHTED: Cultural icon and former *Brigitte* Paul McCartney, 54, at an investiture ceremony in Buckingham Palace.

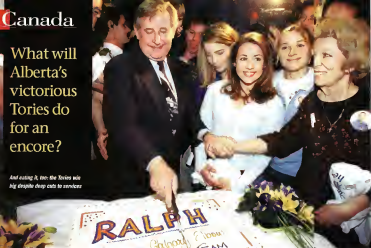
RECOVERING: Canada's foremost child conductor, Elmer Kell, 68, in Vancouver, after a major heart transplant surgery for a nonfatal graft-versus-host reaction. An officer of the Order of Canada, Kell has conducted the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, Canada's oldest choral group, for 33 years.

HONORIFIED: For the Nobel Peace Prize, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, 57, by Senator Philip Lewis, a Democrat from Vermont, for Axworthy's work towards an international treaty banning anti-personnel land mines.

SIGNED: After 16 years in retirement, hockey legend Bobby Howe, 68, to a professional league, contacted by the Syracuse Crunch of the American Hockey League.

What will Alberta's victorious Tories do for an encore?

And eating it, then the Tories will big despite deep cuts to services



Klein's cakewalk

BY MARY NEMETH

It was a lesson in the new politics of fiscal conservatism: governments can cut deep and fast—and still go on to post massive electoral victories. What an Alberta Premier Ralph Klein's romp at the ballot box last week on his Tories capture of 63 of 10 seats in the legislature. It helped, of course, that Klein is a personable populist and was able to sell his tough fiscal agenda to the province. It helped even more: that the tides of economic fortune—the grace of crude oil in particular—flowed in the government's favor. With that, Alberta's Tories were able to offer the electorate quick gratification in the form of a \$8.3-billion budgetary surplus this past year alone. Still, it was deflating that it was the day—to the chagrin of the opposition: "I think a lot of people just came to the conclusion that the Klein government had done a pretty good job in terms of balancing the budget," said downtown Liberal MLA Frank Brueserich on election eve, as incoming poll results made it clear that he was about to lose his seat in Calgary North West. "A lot of people up in this week just said they didn't care that the voters had lost—they felt they were prepared to pay the price."

Klein's Conservatives picked almost all of Alberta's Tory blue on

March 11, except for one Liberal seat in Calgary, and in the northern Alberta city of Lethbridge, and 18 Liberal and two New Democratic seats in the Edmonton area. In fact, although they won some ridings on the capital's periphery, the Tories took only two seats in the city proper, and so failed to denigrate the opposition, as some observers had predicted. But that was the only weakness in an otherwise masterful political performance. Despite implementing one of the toughest fiscal regimes ever in Canada—the Tories reduced government expenditures by 30 per cent, cut thousands of positions from the civil service, closed hospitals and slashed welfare rolls—they won 15 more seats than they did in the June, 1993, election, and increased their share of the popular vote by almost seven points to 51.2 per cent.

Such a resounding victory for a fellow budget-cutter is likely to comfort Prime Minister Jean Chrétien as he contemplates his own run at the polls, expected in June. "There's certainly nothing in the election outcome," says University of Calgary political scientist Roger Gibbins. "That would make the Prime Minister reconsider plans for an early election." But what respect Klein may have on other federal strategies is far from certain. There has been uncorroborated speculation that he might join federal Conservative Leader

Jean Chrétien in celebrating distinct society status for Quebec. And last week, one high-ranking federal official who requested anonymity said that while Klein has not been directly approached on the issue, his support for any constitutional recognition of Quebec may be crucial because of his popularity among its low-protection and high-growth Western Canada—where much of the resistance to distinct society is rooted.

That means Klein will almost certainly face pressure at some point in his new term to board the federal unity train. Reform Leader Preston Manning, who opposes distinct society status, sought to force Klein's hand during the provincial campaign, calling on him to clarify his position. Klein brushed him off, saying distinct society was not on his agenda. He has also promised to hold a referendum before Alberta approves any constitutional change. And at least some analysts suggest that Klein would have to pay a substantial political price at home should he ever champion the distinct society cause. "I'm sure that there are members of both the Liberals and Conservatives who are advising at the prospect of trying to move Ralph Klein's political capital onto their agendas—but it won't work," argues University of Calgary political scientist Barry Cooper. "He would very quickly lose a great deal of support if he did that." Klein, however, seems to be leading his options again—despite his quick dismissal of Manning's maneuvering. He has said that he can support Quebec's uniqueness, so long as such a recognition does not confer special powers or status on the province. And when asked about the issue, the premier seemed to choose his words carefully: "It's not on my agenda at this particular time," he said.

Last week, though, attention in Alberta was focused on Klein's domestic agenda. In 1993, he received a clear mandate to cut the deficit. His current campaign was run largely on the Tories' success in meeting that challenge. "It's hard to see the Liberals' large billboards featuring Klein as a double edict," said he will again. "But as the Klein government now embarks on a second term, what is that word?" "You still very pointedly do to what is expected," says Calgary's Gibbins. "To me, all the government has really got to place is in the course philosophy in terms of managing expenditures—which I think makes a lot of sense." But as the province emerges from the deflating moment, Gibbins adds, there does seem to be a clear signal as to how the government will "proceed with the politics of prosperity."

Klein has said that his party's plan for the future would lead out in the budget the Tories tabled on Feb. 11, the day the premier called the election. That document promised modest spending increases in areas like education, health and seniors' programs, and set a goal of 125,000 new jobs to be created in the province by December 2000. The premier has also announced plans for a summit in late May at which business, labor and community leaders will hammer out strategies for handling the pressures of growth—such as demands for increased wages. "The mandate says," Klein said the day after the election, "to really sustain the household, to make sure that there is a comfortable lifestyle, a good lifestyle, for all Albertans." But he conceded that he did not have all the details. "You ask me specifically how we're going to do that in each and every case, I don't know," said Klein.

Some of his opponents charged that the Tories will actually use their new majority to press forward with further cuts. "It's going to be a more arrogant government," chastised Howard Swenson, the retired sociologist and former Tory who ran as the Liberal candidate in Klein's 8,255 Swenson claimed that the Tories would "make further cuts in health and education." Red Klein insisted that those cuts are over—and that money saved because of lower interest costs on a shrink-

ing provincial debt will be channeled into those and other high-priority areas.

In fact, Klein is certain to face ever-increasing demands, especially from provincial government employees and other public-sector workers who took away millions of dollars the per cent during the government's budget slashing. On March 5, just two days before Albertans went to the polls, the province's regional health authorities reached a deal that gave registered nurses wage increases of more than seven per cent over two years in addition to staffing concessions. Labor leaders have said that the deal—which came after nurses threatened to strike—has set a precedent for negotiating contract talks with provincial government employees, as well as ongoing negotiations between teachers and local school boards. "All of us sacrificed five per cent to help eliminate the deficit," said Alberta Teachers' Association president Susan MacKay. "Our position now is that all of us must get it back."



Klein and his cabinet are happy like Liberals after a long day

In the legislature, meanwhile, Klein will be facing a reduced opposition. Among the newcomers will be two New Democrats. But his party that was frozen out in the 1993 election, Liberal Peter Barrett failed in her bid to replace the Liberals as the opposition. But the presence of the political firebrand in the legislature is sure to ignite some lively debate.

The real surprise of the election, however, was that the Liberals managed to hold on to 14 ridings. Although that is 14 fewer than they won in 1993, it is considered a decent showing—given that Alberta politics have often been monolithic, with the opposition frequently reduced to a handful of members. And the Grillo actually won 32.7 per cent of the popular vote, up from the 28 per cent support they had in the latest mid-campaign opinion poll—enough, some analysts suggested last week, to ensure that Grant Mitchell will be free to stay on as Liberal leader of the no choosers. The flip side of that limited Liberal success is the disappointment that Klein expressed at failing to make deeper inroads in the capital, despite aggressive campaigning. "I regret that we didn't do a little bit better in the city of Edmonton," Klein said on election night. But with 63 seats, he could still reveal a resounding triumph for the Tories—and for the politics of balanced budgets.

With JOHN DEWITT in Ottawa and DALE ESSLER in Calgary

Greener pastures

Lured by jobs and stability, some francophones are leaving Quebec

BY BRENDA BRANSWELL

For Montrealer Pierre Whillock, there is finally light at the end of the tunnel: within 18 months, he will complete his medical residency and be ready to launch a potentially lucrative career as a hematologist and oncologist. But like many other francophones, Whillock is considering his options outside Quebec. The 36-year-old, who is also a pharmacist, is disillusioned by deep cuts to the province's health-care system, including caps on the salaries of new doctors. Having covered so much time and money, Whillock is casting a wide net in search of a pay package that will reflect his credentials. Already, he has made the trek to a New Brunswick hospital to check out a job possibility and may look even further afield in the months ahead. "I'm offered better conditions elsewhere, I think I'd go," says Whillock. If he could choose, Whillock says he would prefer a place where he can live in both cultures. But he knows he may be forced to compromise. "If it means going to a gritty and lousy office," he says, "I'd still go."



Photo by David M. Huxford

It is a decision that other Quebec francophones are making, albeit with much less fanfare than their anglophone counterparts. While it is not known how many francophones have left the province in recent years, figures compiled by Statistics Canada show a steady decline in francophone employment. In fact, the loss of people to other provinces since the summer of 1980. The exodus has been mostly made up of anglophones, who leave the province at far greater numbers than other Quebecers, but francophones from all backgrounds are also part of the outflow. Some of them say the reason is Quebec's double-dip unemployment. Others, looking for raises and promotions, find greater opportunities in strong financial centres like Toronto and Calgary. And while many francophones do not attribute their decision to politics, some are clearly uneasy about the province's political future. "Nobody wants to admit it," says Rodrigue Gilbert, Toronto president of the Université de Montréal's business school

association. "We kind of like betraying your own people." Whenever the moment, Quebec may be in danger of losing some of the best and brightest among its francophone population. As pointed out by the *Projetisme des médecins résidents du Québec* last fall, for example, it showed that 55 per cent of respondents, mostly francophones, were seriously considering a medical career outside Quebec. Related cuts, such as a 30 per cent reduction in the salaries of some new medical specialists, coupled with fewer dollars for health care, may be encouraging that mind-set, according to federation president Denis Southeres. Some fear they will not be able to provide the same standard of care as in the past, he explains. They also believe there are worse Academies waiting for them elsewhere. "Doctors don't feel like they are wanted in Quebec," he says.

For those in business and the professions,

the incentive to pull up stakes may be even more powerful. A study released last November by Duss & Harsidout found that more than 500 Montreal head offices have moved to Toronto since 1977, a year after the Parti Québécois first took office. The subsequent flight of anglophones down Highway 401 to Toronto and beyond has been well documented, but observers say they are now seeing more francophones following in their footsteps. Some Montreal headhunters, for instance, now say that francophones are exhibiting a greater willingness than in the past to consider jobs outside Quebec. "You wouldn't have heard that before," says Maïeul Wenzel, chairman and managing director at the Montreal recruiting firm of Spencer Stuart.

Not surprisingly, corner-office jobs appear to be one of the biggest motivators for geographic francophones. Jean-Pierre Barabois, of management consultants



Left: Pierre Whillock. Right: Pierre Whillock. "It's kind of like betraying your own people."

Debiève & Touche Grube Cornwell, has noticed a greater willingness among francophone middle and upper managers to move to Ontario, the western provincial visitor who dropped by when McGill first took over the position two years ago. Most of those looking for work fall into one of two categories, McGill says: young, underemployed francophones whose English is insufficient for most jobs, or bilingual, well-qualified people who know the Calgary job market. "While the latter generally have little difficulty finding work, those with fewer skills are often disappointed," McGill says. "The city is not the economic epicure that many imagine. Generally, they have to take a position that they are overqualified for," he says.

Wherever they land, many francophones seem keenly aware of the cultural boundaries they are crossing. But working in English, Canada, they say, does not have to mean losing their heritage behind. When Jacques Charette was unable to find a suitable Montreal location for his condos, there almost five years ago, he moved it to Toronto. "It was really a business decision," says Charette,

manager of the association, who he sees between 15 and 20 francophones a month, mostly Quebecers, seeking information about Calgary's 15,000-strong francophone community—a sharp increase from the occasional visitor who dropped by when McGill first took over the position two years ago. Most of those looking for work fall into one of two categories, McGill says: young, underemployed francophones whose English is insufficient for most jobs, or bilingual, well-qualified people who know the Calgary job market. "While the latter generally have little difficulty finding work, those with fewer skills are often disappointed," McGill says. "The city is not the economic epicure that many imagine. Generally, they have to take a position that they are overqualified for," he says.

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"which I don't regret at all." His Condominium Shuck has done so well that Charette has since opened a second store that sells products such as linens, wallpaper and candles. Determined to speak French as much as possible, Charette began organizing weekly francophone get-togethers called Les mercredi's francophonie, which regularly draw about 50 people.

Charette, like some francophones who have left Quebec recently, says that he is seeing a steady influx of Bilingual people into Toronto. And Gilbert says it closed chapter of his alumni association has grown from 10 members in 1986 to more than 300 today. Some ex-Montrealers, like lawyer Nathalie Melville, 35, even say they are getting to like the place. Melville, a member of a law firm with offices in both cities, was temporarily transferred to the Toronto office for more than two years ago. But she ended up staying—and has since married an anglophone. Although people worried her she would find Toronto boring, Melville admits the city, calling it "very cosmopolitan." She also finds it more stimulating professionally because the transaction she works on tend to be larger. And then there is the money. "Since I left Montreal, I've had a significant salary increase," says Melville.

A few of those who talked to Montrealers about leaving Quebec acknowledged—though sometimes on condition of anonymity—that uncertainty about Quebec's political future did factor into their decision. "How could I not?" said one former Quebecer, now a Toronto resident. It was not just the threat of secession, he added, but his sense of a mismatched life—essentially. He said that many Quebecers openly blame on the province's political instability. "I think it's a matter of different culture and at some point they break up," he explained. Another vice-president of a Toronto brokerage firm said he put his house up for sale last May, after the 1986 election. "I got some bumps," said the man, recalling former Quebec premier Jacques Parson's referendum might remark blessing the government's loss on "money and the ethnic vote." His personal reason for moving, he adds, was to cut down on travel time because much of his work was in Toronto.

A wide hearing, of course, does not always mean there are no regrets. Procter & Gamble employee Francis Perron, 25, says he would like to go something back to Montreal, where he was raised. "All other things being equal, if I had been offered again there, I would have stayed," he says, but, for him and other francophones—at least for now—there mustn't have been a Quebec address.

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CANADA

Ordering equality

As senior Liberals policy put it, they have a "vision" on their hands. Two months ago, executives of the Thorold riding association board rumors that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien indicated to appoint former provincial cabinet minister Ellen Caplan to the Liberal candidate in their newly created riding on the outskirts of Metro Toronto—without a democratic consultation process. When party heavyweights would not rule out that possibility, general secretary Rossella Brown penned a series of political protests on behalf of the riding executive. To no avail. Last week, Chrétien used his powers to designate Caplan and three other women as candidates in the upcoming election. "The leader wanted to show that he was walking the walk as well as talking the talk," Caplan declares. Brown is not sure that this is how parties should stride towards gender equality in 1997.

"It's a hard sell because we need women," she says. "But if they had said, 'look and clear that they needed women in 1993, people would have come up through the grassroots. There is no fairness in politics.'"
Few Liberals would question the actual quality of Caplan's choices. In addition to Caplan, he nominated five Ontario candidates, Whistler municipal councillor Judi Leachfield and Metro Toronto councillor Judy Siro, and a Vancouver candidate, social worker Sophia Leung—all hard working political women. Fewer Liberals would dispute the Prime Minister's goal that 75 of the 301 Liberal candidates in the next election will be women. It is his method that has provoked heated debate. And there may be more controversy ahead. As of March 16, the Liberals calculated that 32 of the 118 nominated Liberal candidates were women, including 30 of the 37 female MPs. When Liberal leaders add up the number of women likely to be nominated over the next few weeks, they predict that Caplan may have to appoint up to four more candidates. As the Prime Minister conceded in an address to party faithful: "It will be controversial. But I have no regrets. It's difficult for a woman to come into politics."

But the Liberals have landed themselves



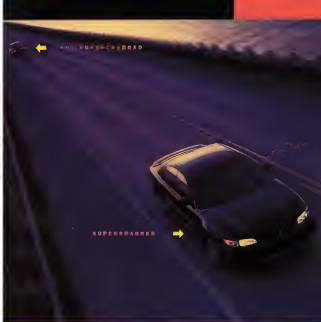
The Liberals appoint four women candidates

Brown, 'people would have come through the grassroots'

squarely in the middle of a conflict between democratic principles and gender equality. There is no doubt that women are underrepresented in Parliament. There are 54 women, including 37 Liberals, in the current 295-seat House of Commons. Chrétien has invoked a clause first inserted in the party rules at the 1992 biennial convention with the approval of 90 per cent of the delegates. The party leader may decide to skip the traditional election for the nomination—and simply appoint the candidate. That clause was largely ignored by the party's desire to thwart single-issue movements that were seizing control of riding associations. But Chrétien used the clause in 1993 to appoint 14 candidates—among them nine women, four of whom were elected. This time, the Prime Minister said he hopes to intervene in less than nine ridings.

It is never easy to wage the nomination to run for the governing party in a so-called winnable riding. But many Liberals argue that women face more difficulties than men. The campaign itself can cost up to \$80,000, because aspirants must often attract new

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CANADA

members to the riding association to vote for them in the nomination battle and women traditionally have less access to such assets. Women are usually saddled with more family responsibilities. And the very process, with its no-holds-barred campaign, may alienate some female contenders. "In the nomination process you push yourself forward," says Caplan. "That's very male." So business as usual, the party primarily distributed its "riding funds" to Liberal MPs and candidates last week, which they went to use to defend Chretien's action. Among them was the slogan, "Equality isn't about equal treatment, it's about equal opportunity."

The approach has provoked rebuttals from party members and political foes. Dismissed Vancouver Liberal MP, who said that Leung has lost two women candidates in the past four years, proving that the party's grassroots prefers other candidates. In Toronto, candidate Siro is facing former Liberal MP John Moushyn, who was ousted from the party last year. "This is Soviet style democracy—the death of democracy in the Liberal party," says Moushyn, who will run as an independent.

The opposition was equally scathing. The Reform party, which nominated 23 women candidates and elected seven in 1993, repeated its firm stand that all potential candidates, male and female, are equal—and the grassroots must select them. "The Conservatives, who nominated 57 women and elected one in 1993, held up the appointments as a glaring indication of Liberal arrogance. 'I find it insulting to all women,'" says Tory MP Blue Wayne. "The NDP, which elected one of its 123 female members in 1993, pointed out that it has adopted a 55-45 spending limit on candidates who are seeking a nomination. And it demands that the riding conduct a thorough search for female candidates before it can hold a nomination meeting. 'It is frustrating to hear, 'Do the ends justify the Liberal means?' when there are different means to achieve these ends," says NDP media secretary Hugh Halperin.

Perhaps the best Liberal response in the face of such attacks is the fact that all four women candidates who were appointed, and won, in 1993 have created their own constituencies without help in 1997. One of those MPs, Saskatchewan lawyer Georgetown Sheridan, defends the party's attempts to foster women. "We are at a very awkward stage right now but this is far more remarkable than just talking about it," Sheridan says. She adds that perhaps all parties should reexamine the nomination process. "Anyone who has been around politics knows that it is a membership-based contest," she notes. "A thoughtful nomination has got to occur." That is perhaps the only point on which everyone can agree.

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Canada NOTES

DUCEPPE TAKES OVER

Bloc Quebecois House Leader Gilles Duceppe won his party's leadership at the BQ's weekend convention. Duceppe, who takes over from outgoing leader Michel Gauthier, will lead the sovereigntist federal party into the coming election, widely expected for the June. With 44.8 per cent support in Quebec, compared to 15.4 for the governing Liberals, the Bloc remains the province's most popular party—and the third in Ottawa.

BOLSTERING A CASE

The Indian Claims Commission, a federal advisory body, issued a scorching recommendation that Ottawa should compensate the Chippewas in Ontario's Ipperwash area on Lake Huron. The commission said that the natives had been cheated in their original 1807 surrender of 30 hectares of land. The Kettle and Stoney Point First Nations say they will continue with a Sovereignty lawsuit against the federal government unless the matter is settled. Ipperwash has been the focus of numerous conflicts—in 1990, a native was killed outside the local provincial park during a protest over a sacred burial ground.

A HEIST GOES BAD

A daring \$1.2 million daylight robbery at an upscale downtown Toronto private store went sour after police identified one of the suspects' cars from a \$10 parking ticket. By week's end, police had broken down three suspects—all Montbaleys—who were arrested and returned to Toronto. Police continued to search for another three Montbaleys believed to be involved in the armed robbery, which took a scant 105 seconds to complete. The loot, which included diamonds and Rolex watches, also remained missing.

THE ICEMAN COMETH

Prize basketball transported his dual father from Los Angeles back to Toronto—in line in the back of his camp. The elder Bashuev, 78, died of a stroke while visiting relatives in California with his son. Bashuev, who said that "basically, I guess I was a shock," delivered his father's body to a west Toronto funeral home after a four-day trip across the continent. He crossed into Canada without trouble after saying "truthfully—that he had nothing to declare."



Courthouse protest. Olson's request for early parole raises a storm

A killer's bid to go free

He killed 11 children—and now he wants to escape his jail cell and to apply for early parole. Clifford Olson, the nation's serial killer, continued to haunt his victims' families as the B.C. Supreme Court heard his application under Section 745 of the Criminal Code—the so-called lifetime clause. In 1981, Olson was sentenced to a minimum of 25 years to jail for his murderous rampage in 1959 and 1961 in the Greater Vancouver area. But under Section 745, he became eligible to apply for early release after serving 25 years, and he

filed his application last August. Justice Minister Allan Rock introduced amendments to the law in January that exclude serial killers, but the change was not made retroactive to apply to Olson.

Last week, Olson's self-assured voice, broadcast over a speakerphone from his Prince Albert, Sask., prison, filled the courtroom where the victims' family members sat stoically. Justice Richard Lewis ordered Olson, 57, to appear before him on April 18 to begin the parole review. Olson must convince two-thirds of a jury that he should be released, which

many observers consider unlikely. In his opening statement, Justice Lewis and the court is aware of the strong public sentiment against his application. "The present case is not about what the law should be, but what the law is." After the hearing, about 200 people, including members of the victims' families, rallied outside the courthouse to protest Olson's judicial review. "All this is to pull our chains, that's all he's doing," said Raymond King, father of 25-year-old victim Raymond King, Jr. "And we're paying for it, aren't we?"

LEADERSHIP

The bare facts

Look—but don't touch. That was the admonition of the Supreme Court of Canada's ruling on lap dancing, a controversial performance in which a stripper gyrates on a chair's lap while in jeans, makeup—and being groped. In its decision, the court said that "a dancer, in a fact sheet, and should Toronto club manager Alan East's conviction for allowing an indecent performance, lap dancing, at all times in underground after, spread across the country in 1994 after an Ontario court ruled that the act did not offend community standards. Many dancers, including former stripper Barbara Goldberg, who claims to have been forced out of her job for objecting to the practice on the grounds that it is an act of sexual prostitution, Goldberg, said she welcomed the Supreme Court's decision but still had reservations. "The decision won't mean much," she said, "if the police don't enforce it."

Accusations of murder

Cassius Forces Maj. Barry Armstrong testified that the shooting death of Somali teenager Ahmed Arusha on March 1, 1988, at the hands of the Canadian Airborne Regiment was "murder." Armstrong told the Somalia inquiry that he was at the Canadian compound in Beirut when he was called to examine Arusha's body. The experienced surgeon said Arusha had been shot in the back and was "surgically finished off" with a blast in the head. Arusha also suffered a third wound, from a hand, just below the neck. A witness, teenager Nick Blandford, was shot in the back but survived. Both were suspected of looting. Armstrong said he was upset to learn that headquarters in Ottawa established what he claimed was a "damage-control operation" soon afterward. It was only on April 14, almost six weeks after the incident, that National Defence Headquarters announced an investigation—the same day Armstrong threatened to go public. He also said he was assigned a 24-hour bodyguard after it became known he was making accusations of murder. "The concern was that one of the soldiers might have a few too many beers and shoot me," he said. In earlier testimony, field commander Lt.-Col. Gerald Mathias questioned Armstrong's mental stability, calling him "almost certifiable." Armstrong's response: "I've never been crazy."



Onlookers
at life's
Zemir
the
to
to

Out of Albania

Foreigners flee as mobs run wild

Tomas Pellushi was in his house in a Tirana suburb—intent on staying out of Tirana's war—when a bullet struck him just above the hip. "It's terrible," said Vladimir Gago, the neighbor who drove Pellushi to his brother. "Too many people are shooting. Everyone is afraid, and there is so much noise." The ear-splitting crackle of gunfire resounded across the city last week, as pistol extremists gripped Albania's capital after the armed revolt, which took hold first in the south of the country, spread north. While both foreigners and Albanians rushed to get out of the country, beleaguered President Sali Berisha admitted he had lost control and asked NATO to send peacekeepers to disarm the rebellious population. "The speed with which the events unfolded alarmed many people," said Susan Carlsberg, Canada's ambassador to Belgrade, whose responsibility includes Albania. "It's very difficult to predict what will happen."

Of the 82 Canadians in Albania known to the Budapest Embassy, seven piled since 800 Americans, British and other foreigners who fled for the Adriatic port of Durres, west of Tirana, after rebels closed the international airport on Thursday evening. With 125 mostly British citizens, the Canadians then went by Italian ship and to Britain. Only several other Canadians had left this strife-torn country shortly before the two months of civil unrest over failed privatization schemes finally bubbled over in the past three weeks. "We would have been down right soon—I don't know whether this is pure luck or what," said Dean Barry of Vancouver, who along with his husband, returned home in January after two months in Durres working on an 800-million deal and a trial park to be completed over the years. "We had felt the violence wouldn't get to this point. Obviously, we'll just everything on hold."

For a brief time early last week, Tirana residents could hope the anarchy that gripped the northern half of their country was over. Berisha offered to call back his armed forces and form a "government of national unity." In what the opposition be-

lieved as a stunning triumph, the president agreed to new parliamentary elections by June and granted a general amnesty to all insurgents provided they put down their arms within a week. "Tomorrow will be a different day, perhaps the day we've been waiting for not just for days, but for years," declared Fico Bogdan, a former member of the opposition Democratic Alliance party. But when tomorrow came, it became all too clear that even this deal was too little, too late. Newly formed rebel councils throughout the south vowed to push on until Berisha resigned and the money from a sabbatical of collapsed privatization schemes was returned to investors. Nearly every Albanian family had put money in the shaky banks that



Albanians arriving in Kosovo; a day with looted weapons (left); president's peace deal came too late

quickly took off around the country. When a third of the populace lost its life savings, anger focused on the Berisha regime. "The government has led us too far," declared Albert Shyti, a day laborer in Greece who became the head of the rebel council in Vlore after returning in January to recover his money. "We won't rest until there is a new government, and our money is returned."

His fellow rebels kept to their words. One group took over Albania's largest military base in Kavaje, 75 km south of Tirana. The residents of Dajçan Gari and Koles, Berisha strongholds in the north, melted barricades, echoing the demands of their comrades in the south. Almost overnight, loots of a civil war between anti-government rebels in the south and Berisha supporters in the north engulfed as Albanians united in armed insurrection.

As the anarchy spread to the capital, soldiers abandoned their static positions on the outskirts on Wednesday leaving them to be looted by angry and terrified residents. Thousands of people, some just youngsters, looted off automatic rifles, hand grenades and ammunition. The next morning, with the city overwhelmed with weapons and almost constant gunfire, prison guards abandoned their posts, freeing both political prisoners and violent criminals. That, in turn, loosed

the loots of people such as Artan Yeziti, a 20-year-old student who had not looted barracks, but wanted a gun. "The prison was opened, so who is not now?" he asked after buying a rifle from some child born for 300 lek (less than \$8). Suddenly, there was no police force, no army and only a scorching hot power station.

It was a scary sight to those who had watched the country's recent economic gains. "They inherited an economy that was very bad and really had started reforms," said Daniel Molleaux, an observer for the British Helsinki Human Rights Group in Budapest. "It wasn't elegant, but it was a start. This is bad now." One man, who lived through the dark era of Sali Berisha's wife, Enxhe Hoxha, who died in 1980, and the turmoil following the 1991 collapse of the Communist regime, struck a more somber note. "If they are shooting in the air today, they will be shooting at each other tomorrow," he said, pushing a bicycle weighed down by sacks of potatoes.

Terrified of what was to come, hundreds of newly armed residents looted the Tirana flour depots and hauled away 65-lb bags of the state's reserves. Although many took advantage of the lawlessness to help themselves to clothing and other goods, many were stealing basic foods. Those who could afford to peddle on shopping sprees. Riza Lala, retired military pilot, carried plastic bags loaded with banks of lita and yellow cheese, olives and frozen hamburger. "I didn't even ask the prices," he said. "I just spent all the money I had in my pocket."

Amid the chaos, Western embassies, many of which had already evacuated nonessential staff, decided it was time to get out. American, British and Swiss staff, including some from the NATO force in Bosnia moved to evacuate up to 2,000 Americans from the embassy housing complex in Tirana. Lined up in jackets and helmets, children screamed and families looked panicked as they tried to get onto the choppers. Bob Durham and his Albanian wife, Eva, stood with their 18-month-old son, Jimmy. Why were they leaving? "Because her mother was left in the head by a bullet yesterday and my brother-in-law was hit in the knee by a bullet today," Durham said. But the American consulate building where an air attack was fired at a helicopter. With only 608 U.S. citizens

safely out, U.S. marines swarmed the embassy compound to provide added protection as authorities considered other evacuation plans.

When the French landed their helicopters on an open beach in Durres, hundreds of Albanians stormed the aircraft. Banging for a full and provoking hole, they tried in vain to prevent the pilots from taking out. Gunfire roared behind Italian choppers airlifted about 100 people from Tirana's football stadium, completing an evacuation of about 1,000 Italian nationals. And German troops guarding their force's helicopter opened fire on two raucous that sped through an evacuation area, spraying bullets in the air.

As the American drew out, U.S. ambassador Martin L. Hoque made an extraordinary appearance on national television to reassure Albanians. "The United States of America is not leaving Albania," he said. "I and some of my team will remain." But the plea did little to calm fears in the capital as reports increased in that hundreds of Albanians, among them a former defense minister and his family as well as the president's children, had boarded flights to Italy. As the crisis raged on in Italy of a report of the 1991 rule of 10,000 Albanians who had found the right Albanian rule embarked in Europe's poorest state, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees urged neighboring countries not to turn back the refugee seekers.

Meanwhile, the newly appointed Albanian prime minister, Bashkim Fino, appealed for calm in a nation where the populace now holds an estimated half million automatic rifles, nearly 30,000 antitank missiles, grenades and even lighter planes. "We've had enough bloodshed," Fino said. "It's enough time we work together to end this anarchy." He he spoke in a crucible that witnessed the sound of gunfire from the capital's streets punctuated his words.

STACY SULLIVAN in Tirana with ALICIA ROSSIGNOL in Budapest

'Shame and anger'

Jordan vows to prosecute a soldier who killed seven Israeli schoolgirls



Wounded 14-year-old Israeli girl and Karine Ivo, Mosab (inset) questioning the king's cabinet

They call Netanyahu the "kibbutz of peace." A 100-hectare tongue of land, it was returned to Jordan under the 1994 peace treaty after 19 years of occupation, but it quickly turned back to Israel for continued terrorism—a symbol of the dream of a better relationship between two olden ones. Last Thursday morning, the dream turned into a nightmare when Ahmad Mousa, a 24-year-old off-duty Jordanian army driver, gambled on a 16-hour massacre in a school field trip. By the time his Jordanian comrades overpowered him and attempted to reload, seven of the girls lay dead or dying. One of their teachers and five other pupils were wounded, two of them seriously.

The shootings unfolded as a series of rage and sorrow in Israel and raised new concerns about the level of political rhetoric in the region—and the responsibility of leaders to avoid fanning the flames of the Middle East tinderbox. Just four days earlier, Jordan's King Hussein had accused Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of creating an atmosphere of fear and despair in which Arab and Jewish Jews "slid sliding towards an abyss of bloodshed and disaster." Netanyahu, on a visit to

Moscow, fired back at a news conference, saying he was "tricked" by "with accusations that everything he did was a violation of the Israeli-Palestinian peace accords." Hussein's frustration arose primarily from Netanyahu's decision to build 6,500 Jewish houses on former Arab land in Jerusalem. Palestinians and their Arab allies were also taken aback by what they saw as a military, police or Israeli soldier from Israel of just one percent of the West Bank in the next phase of land over jurisdiction under the Oslo peace process. In the aftermath of the tragic shooting, Israeli officials appealed to Jordan's leaders to ensure their country's role would not be interpreted as sanctioning such atrocities. "This is a volatile region," observed Netanyahu's spokesman, David Taro-Tan. "It can be torn apart by a handful of fanatic Islamists."

Russians, however, issued his letter had not provoked the massacre. "When I warned a few days ago of the danger of the possibility of violence, I never thought it would lead to this," he said. Confronting the killing unexpectedly as "a vile crime," Hussein vowed to see the perpetrator prosecuted. He cut short a visit to Spain and flew back to Amman instead of continuing on to the

United States, where he had planned to raise his concerns with President Bill Clinton. "I cannot offer enough condolences to the mothers, fathers and brothers of these children who fell today," said Hussein. "I can only say that I feel the way they feel, with a deep sense of shame and anger that this thing should have happened."

The tragedy unfolded as two hundreds of girls from the Fustat religious high school in Beit Shimon, midway between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, visited the site where the Jordan and Yarmouk rivers meet in an arid landscape 15 km south of the Sea of Galilee. Thousands of Israeli adults and children—have toured the area since 1968, with no need for visas or passports. The only condition is that the Israeli guards who escort school trips leave their guns behind—the area is patrolled by armed Jordanian soldiers.

When the girls climbed a low hill to look at a vista of towering palm trees, distant hills and an abandoned hydroelectric plant, they suddenly heard gunshots. "I looked up and saw a Jordanian soldier firing at us," a witness, "recounted. I saw him, one of their teachers." The girls started to take cover as one burst came after another. The soldier chased to the edge of the slope and fired three point-blank shots. He had to change his magazine. It didn't work, and that was the end of it.

Israeli witnesses complained that the Jordanian soldiers waited too long to go after Mousa. They also accused the Jordanians of delaying their ambulances. On the other hand, Jordanian women in long black dresses and scarves in red-clattered headscarves fled to donate blood at a Jordanian hospital that treated some of the injured students. "We were scared and we will never sanction the killing of innocent children," said Uta Hassan Khassawneh, a mother of eight. "We have children too, and we don't want this to happen to them."

The initial findings of a Jordanian military investigation suggested that the gunman was "not a Palestinian, not a fanatic and not a devout Muslim," any of which might have explained his conduct. But his mother, Uta Khassawneh, appealed to Hussein for mercy. "My son has not had a violent Islam," she said. "He has children and a decent home." The Jordanian threat and the next morning hundreds of stoned boys and girls, some gloomy-eyed with grief, rallied around the car corner. Friends comforted each other, and pupils brought a sobbing woman teacher as, for yet another time, the intractable malice of the Middle East came crashing into a community's lives.

ERIC SELLNER is in Beit Shimon with NAJIBAH SAJJAM in Amman



Putin with Chubais: a tendency to live a free people

Back in the saddle

Memo to Bill Clinton: (a) Expect a re-elected Boris Yeltsin to show up for his week's U.S.-Russia summit in Helsinki. (b) He is ready to make a deal on NATO expansion.

He's back. After almost a year lost to heart disease, prostate surgery and recovery, President Boris Yeltsin is reclaiming his position as Russia's probable leader. Known for his tendency to fire his people whenever he wanted to make it clear who is running the country, Yeltsin launched a new wave of dismissals late last month. The first victims were two close associates—his personal photographer and general chief of staff—attending a drunken Kremlin party celebrating the election of Yeltsin for the national legislature. Round 2 of the firings came last week with the dismissal of all but two of the 33 members of his cabinet. Yeltsin criticized them sharply for failing to solve the country's problems during his absence. Andrei Pankovskiy, an analyst at the Moscow-based Center for Strategic Studies, said of the president's return to active duty: "He was like a person who arrived from another planet and just found all this mess."

That mess confounds Yeltsin's Russia. Industrial production is just what it was at the collapse of the Soviet Union six years ago, and official statistics show no sign of a turnaround. Millions of Russians in the state sector, among them soldiers, coal miners,

schoolteachers and nuclear plant workers, go without wages for up to six months at a stretch. Organized criminals prey on legitimate businesses. But Yeltsin has an important date this week: a two-day meeting with Clinton in Helsinki where he was hoping to make the case for increased American investment, eventual upgrading of Russia's status to full membership in the Group of Seven industrialized countries, and limitations on NATO's expansion ambitions. In laying the groundwork, Yeltsin has tried to demonstrate his administration's determination to bring about real economic reform. It is a commitment that the United States has been waiting for, but one that in recent years has been delayed and delayed by Yeltsin's health problems and the need for political compromise.

Almost eight months into his first, four-year term, the Russian president spirals off his lurching in the state-of-the-union address delivered on March 6. "In the year 2000, Russia will elect a new president," said Yeltsin. "I

want to hand over to my successor a country with a dynamically growing economy, with an effective and just system of social protection, a country whose citizens are confident of their future." Brave words, but Russians have heard them all before. Yeltsin is a reformer who'll commit to economic reforms and staging political elections, but he is not as good at dealing with the raw-and-bare issues of governing the world's largest country.

The only survivors of his latest cabinet shuffling were Prime Minister Viktor Chomomov and Anatoly Chubais, one of the best-known and least-fought politicians in Russia. It was Chubais, known as "Carrot Top" for his thick blond hair, who began the transfer of state enterprises to private ownership in 1991—a march towards capitalism that was his whole game in the West. But the whole-sale sell-off was too chaotic and so marred by corruption and shady deals that Chubais will take much of the heat for Russia's persistent and worsening economic problems.

Chubais and his acknowledged talents as a tough and brilliant administrator are still essentially under the control of Chomomov, a Yeltsin loyalist and favorite who retains his post at the head of the cabinet staff. But Chubais has been pushing more sweeping economic reforms, including radical economic liberalization, with Yeltsin that the real power now lies with Chubais.

On the NATO front, Yeltsin opposes a plan that would see three former Soviet allies—Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic—become alliance members in the next year of enhanced Russian security. Russian remains deeply suspicious of Western assurances that NATO and its expansion are not directed against Russia. But at the same time, the Russian military-industrial establishment can see some advantages in having Western cash pour into Eastern Europe's military industry. Agreements between the Moscow Aviation Production Organization, manufacturer of world-famous MiG-29 warplanes and helicopters, says there could be lucrative service contracts for the jets and choppers in the three former Warsaw Pact air forces.

In any event, Yeltsin is willing to Helsinki with Clinton to make a deal in exchange for Russian acceptance of the three countries becoming NATO members by 1999. They include no membership applications from any other Central European country for at least a decade, no mentions to any former Soviet republic, especially Ukraine and the three Baltic states of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, no further expansion on the territory of the three new alliance members. According to officials on both sides of the summit, Clinton and Yeltsin are aiming to wrap a deal on NATO. But neither knows for sure whether the expanded alliance will indeed bring security to Europe, or simply draw a new line in a divided continent.

MALCOLM GRAY in Moscow

Big and booming

A new 'tiger' hopes to lead the Muslim world

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahatir Mohamed likes to think he's the nation's capital, Kuala Lumpur, now has a \$1 billion statement to prove it. With special care given to ensure that every square inch conforms to Islamic standards, the finishing touches are being applied to the Petronas Towers, twin 452-m glass and steel structures that will eventually dominate the city's blossoming skyline. Named for the state-owned oil company, the Petronas complex has replaced the Sears Tower in Chicago as the world's tallest building. That was the idea. Officials admit that the cylindrical skyscrapers, joined at the top by a 57-m bridge, are as much a political statement as an architectural feat. The message to the world: Malaysia is an Islamic tropical backwater, the setting for gin-fused Somerset Maugham movies—has arrived.

After nearly a decade of fast-paced growth, the former British colony has established itself as one of East Asia's most dynamic "tiger" economies. And that is only the beginning for the 71-year-old Mahatir. The prime minister, a stern taskmaster, calls his grand scheme Vision 2020. By that year, he wants Malaysia to become a fully industrialized nation. Even then, material progress is only a means to an end for Mahatir. He and his best adviser, Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, think Malaysia stands at the crossroads of two trends that will do much to shape the next century: the rise of Asia and the spread of Islam. History is moving their way and they want their nearly 20 million citizens to embrace it. From the Petronas Towers to the capital's new international airport (which will be the most modern in Southeast Asia when it opens next year) to a 750-square-km "Islamic super corridor" that may soon be home to some of the world's top media and information technology firms, Malaysia is making no secret of its global ambitions. Increasingly, the world, including America, is following a path to its door.

But not everyone is impressed. Lim Guan Eng, deputy chief of the opposition Demo-

cratic Action Party, says the Mahatir government has a "misguided fixation with being the best and the biggest." Mahatir has also climbed repeatedly with foreign critics over human rights and other hot-button issues. Now in his 50th year at the helm, he is one of the nation's most so-called "Asian values"—which hold that, within limits, authoritarian rule is more conducive to economic development and social harmony than unfettered democracy. He is also an aggressive spokesman for the developing world. Nationally, he is seldom given a chance to visit the West for what he sees as his hypocrisy and alien-or-motives-in-dealing-with-Asia. He opposed the creation in 1989 of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation forum, fearing that strong non-Asian countries—the United States, Canada and Australia—would try to dominate it. He has since relented, and is expected to attend the APEC summit in Vancouver in November that he has had a running battle with. But looking, the former Australian premier, over what it means to be Asian—and whether Australia fits the description.

The prime minister has been even tougher on his own people. In the early 1970s, he wrote *The Malay Dilemma*, which claimed hereditary and environmental factors had conspired to make the country's indigenous, mainly Muslim majority—known as *bumiputras* or "sons of the soil"—lazy. Comparing the "burden" to Malaysia's rich wealthier ethnic Chinese, who make up roughly 30 per cent of the population, Mahatir wrote, "Deep under, the inherent traits and character acquired over the centuries... and a host of other measures is being levelled the playing field. To a large extent, the book was banned and he became prime minister. Since then, he has worked to address many of the problems he had raised.

To give poor Malays the skills needed to compete in the marketplace, the government in 1979 unveiled what it called the New Economic Policy, an unusually aggressive experiment in social engineering. The long-term goal was to ensure that ethnic

Malays held a bigger share of the national wealth. It aimed at scholarships, better quotas and a host of other measures to help level the playing field. To a large extent, they worked. But as taking office in 1981, Mahatir saw that the key was wealth creation, not redistribution. Spurred by the success of other East Asian economies—especially neighboring Singapore—he opened Malaysia fully to foreign investment and launched one of Asia's most ambitious privatization programs.

The results have been spectacular. Real

GDP growth has exceeded eight per cent for each of the past nine years. Less than 10 per cent of the population now lives in poverty (compared with half in 1950), the adult mortality rate has fallen to Western levels, and per capita income has soared. Twenty-five years ago, Malaysia's true exports were mostly commodities such as palm oil, tin and rubber. By the 1980s, the country had become a leading electronics producer and was deriving three-quarters of its export revenue from manufacturing.

Malaysia's wealth has attracted considerable Canadian interest. Between 1985 and 1995, two-way trade increased from \$351 million to \$2.12 billion, with Malaysia exporting an almost \$1-billion surplus. At the moment, as many as 100 firms with Canadian ties have operations in Malaysia, including

country suffered its last downturn, which worsened the gap between indigenous Malays and wealthier Chinese. Fearing instability from renewed ethnic tensions, Mahatir ordered scans of people detained under the Internal Security Act, a draconian strict law on the books by the British when they pulled out in 1959. Any hint of a threat now is sure to get the government on edge.

Among immediate concerns is a rising tide of Islamic fundamentalism. Malaysia is a federation of the old Malay states and two territories on the island of Borneo: Sarawak and Sabah. The only state not in the hands of Mahatir's United Malays National Organisation is Kelantan, bordering Thailand, which is ruled instead by the Parti Islam Se-Malaysia. The severely Islamic Kelantan authorities have instituted separate supermarket checkout counters for men and women, banned sexes bar sales, and tried to impose a strict Muslim penal code, including stoning for adulterers and lashings for those caught with liquor. Federal courts have blocked many of the harsher measures, but the prime minister has also made it clear that the government intends to keep the fundamentalist on a short leash. He sees them as a danger not only to racial harmony but to his vision for Malaysia. In showing that it is possible to enjoy prosperity while remaining true to the Koran, he hopes to make Malaysia an example for the entire Islamic world.

Opposition leader Lim says that while Malaysians enjoy more freedom than their Singaporean neighbors—commented with Singaporean premier Goh Chok Tong, Mahatir is a democrat—the government is becoming increasingly authoritarian. Lim fears that rampant cronyism and corruption, coupled with endemic foulmouthing behind closed doors, could undermine investor confidence. The country runs on the parliamentary system, but the government controls the media, and big business often begs the government.

The post-Mahatir generation may bring more reform. Deputy Prime Minister Anwar, 45, a confident student radical jailed for two years under the Internal Security Act, has worked hard to cultivate a liberal image abroad. Lacking inexperience with references to America, Thailand, Japan and other icons of Western liberalism, Anwar has trumpeted the universality of human rights, cast scorn on suggestions that East Asia is unfit for democracy, and urged greater respect for the environment. So far, however, Mahatir remains in firm control, and plans to keep it that way. Even his harshest critics concede he will be a tough act to follow.

MICHAEL STEINBERGER in Kuala Lumpur



Assembling Canon cameras, world-topping Petronas Towers (left) from business to Asian powerhouses

London Life, the Bank of Nova Scotia and Bombardier. "Things are booming," says Harry Van Zant, Kuala Lumpur-based managing director of Calgary's Nova Gas Inc. In addition, who expects more Canadian companies to make the city their Asia-Pacific hub. "People feel pretty confident investing here. Also, when you look at the cities in the region, cost combined with quality of life makes this one of the best."

Converted kudos got a shot in the arm a year ago when Prime Minister Jean Chrétien visited on a Trans Canada business trip. Malaysian, says Paul Lau, a senior trade officer at the Canadian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, have come to see Canada as something of a role model, a more realistic benchmark for their country than the United States or Germany. Canadians, on the other hand, need little to think of Malaysia as it is a developing country," says Lau. "It is no longer a donor-recipient relationship."

Yet in a nation where prosperity is new and meritocracy is long, each day in the growth race prompts a question that has haunted Malaysians for years: what happens if the good times come to an end? The prime minister didn't wait to find out in 1987, when the





By Andrew Phillips

The world on \$1 a year

You can't beat the view from Maurice Strong's office on the 38th floor of the UN building in New York City. Strong's ahead in the art deco marvel of the Chrysler Building; all the way to the left is the Empire State. Below you're the east side of Manhattan, with its glinting towers and old-fashioned emporiums. You can almost hear the Gershwin tunes swirling up from the bowels of the city. Inside Strong's spacious suite of offices, where he presides as executive coordinator for UN reform, the atmosphere is decidedly different. The dowdy beige walls are badly scuffed, the carpets are worn and shabby; the furniture is strictly government-issue, circa 1965. "Functional," is Strong's laconic description. If the United Nations, as its name well-describes, American critics allege, is a scandal for mismanagement, it is not evident here.

Strong has long been the indispensable Canadian on the international stage: businessman, politician, UN operative, environmentalist, humanitarian by extension. A small man with wiry hair, Strong seems to be everywhere these days. Three weeks ago, he was in Washington as James Wolfensohn, president of the World Bank, inaugurated a major shakeup of the 50-year-old institution. Strong is also a senior adviser to Wolfensohn, and the plan to cut staff and cut the bank's loss has certainly been his delicate stamp. He begins this week in Rio de Janeiro, presiding over a follow-up conference to the massive Earth Summit that he organized in 1992. Delegates from 200 countries will assess the progress—or lack of same—since 178 million people met in Rio and signed solemn pledges to protect the environment. His next stop, next morning, is not leaving up to their promises. Later in the week Strong will be back in New York, working as the newly installed secretary general of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, outlines his first steps toward overhauling the organization. Just before Strong's schedule is enough to make most people weep—he has to be in on April 26.

It is also making a cold as he reflects on

the job that is taking up almost all his time right now—co-ordinating Annan's efforts as reform. Strong worked on the same issues for the last secretary general, Egypt's Boutros Boutros-Ghali. "BGT"—as he was known at the United Nations—made a wistful note of joining the bureaucracy. But it was too little, too late, for his critics in Washington, who tend to regard the United Nations as, at best, an inefficient refuge for Third World leaders and, at worst, ground zero of a One World Government plot to do-



Strong: an indispensable Canadian on the international stage

mine Americas of their sovereignty. The United States vetoed a second term for Boutros-Ghali in December, and issued support for Annan, a career UN official from Ghana—on the understanding that he would finally get the organization's house in order. Annan took over on New Year's Day. The next morning, he placed Strong in his big house near the town of Balchatta in Ontario's Kawartha Lakes district, where he was recovering from an operation. Despite his constant globe-trotting, Strong considers Balchatta his home and still manages to get back there about two weekends out of three. ("If we're doing my real work—thinking and writing," he says.) Would Strong oversee his efforts at reform, Annan asked at Strong's side—yes? For the job he's at \$1 a year. That's what he charged at the end of his four-year tenure as chairman of Ontario Hydro in the early '80s, after reluctantly giving up his \$425,000 salary. There he masterminded the utility's massive cuts, from

33,000 employees to just over 23,000. Are similar cuts likely at the United Nations, whose central organization employs about 2,000 people? The answer will come in only as the work and Strong hints that the Hydro model is still on his mind. "We had resistance to change in Oshawa," he reflects. "But we got through it so quickly that no one special interest was able to get enough attention to stop us. I learned something from that experience: it's good to do things incrementally; sometimes you need to do things as a shock treatment." Which will apply at the United Nations? "A bit of both. There will be some shock waves here, as questions sort out."

Strong speaks as one of the United Nations' most committed supporters. He snagged his first UN job—handling oil prices in the security department—in 1947, when the organization was just two years old and he was only 38. Since then, he has held many posts, including under-secretary general in the mid-'60s. His task now is to perform surgery that will save the patient from the likes of Josef Helms, the Republican chairman of the U.S. Senate's foreign relations committee, which has drawn the \$1.9 billion the United States owes the United Nations until it is settled with the pace of change. Strong may not like Helms's tactics, but he recognizes that the financial shock may be necessary to overcome bureaucratic inertia. "There's always a danger that the 'new' idea is just an old one in a new coat," he says. "The organization doesn't have one, so the U.S. has to be a sense giver. It's bottom line by saying, 'We're not going to pay you bills.'"

Annan can make a start on his own by reorganizing and streamlining the secretariat, or central staff. Rapper charges, including the sprawling "UN system" that includes 44,500 employees in the organization's global agencies, will require approval from the 185 member states—a much more delicate proposition. Annan will make his proposals in that vein by the end of July. His dilemma, going far enough to satisfy the Americans, while maintaining the bow to poor countries that stage in low angst from a downbeat United Nations. No one will be more influential in finding that balance than Maurice Strong. □

WHITE HOUSE PRESSURE

The judiciary committees of both houses of the U.S. Congress joined efforts to launch an independent investigation into widespread reports of improper, illegal or questionable donations—mostly all of them involving Democrats—during last year's campaign. Attorney General Janet Reno, meanwhile, insisted that she learned last May of allegations that Clinton was trying to buy influence by funding candidates but she said she only just discovered that, because of a "misunderstanding," the White House was never informed.

THE PRESIDENT'S KNEE

U.S. President Bill Clinton will likely be on crutches for several weeks following successful emergency surgery on his right knee at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland. He's now tending to a late-night standstill on a step at the estate of golfer Greg Norman in Florida. Surgeons performed the two-hour operation under local anesthesia, eliminating the need for a temporary transfer of power to Vice-President Al Gore.

VIOLENCE IN SOWETO

Three people died and 14 were wounded when hostile residents fired into a crowd of 12,000 Zulus marching through the mainly black community of Soweto, south of Johannesburg. The march commemorated the deaths of 55 protesters in 1994, before the first-ever multiracial elections.

WAR CRIMES ON TRIAL

The trial of three Muslims and a Croat accused of raping, torturing and killing Serbs during the 3½-year war in Bosnia began before the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Dayton Accords, which ended the fighting in the region. It is the first group war against trial since the Nuremberg and Tokyo tribunals after the Second World War. And it marks the first time the court in The Hague has considered alleged crimes against Bosnian Serbs.

CANADA CITES EMBASSY

Concerned over the safety of Canada's officials, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy temporarily closed the embassy in Lagos, Nigeria. Relations between the two countries have been tense because of Nigeria's allegations that Canada supports rebel violence there, including last July's bombings—an accusation that Canada denies.



ON THE MOVE AGAIN

A young Hutu is among refugees remaining at a camp in eastern Zaire where thousands of others, many desperately clinging onto canvas bunks on the Zaire River, fled from approaching Tutsi-led rebels. UN officials said more than 100,000 refugees had completed a long trek across the rain forest, but up to 300 drowned in the river. The Hutus, from Rwanda, fear retribution for massacres during the Rwandan civil war. The rebels control most of eastern Zaire. And late last week they overran the airport in the city of Kinshasa, a major blow to the regime of Mobutu Sese Sese. Mobutu was to return this week from France, where he has been recuperating from surgery for prostate cancer.

Rethinking gender identity

The patient, now in his early 30s, is known to the world only as John/John. And his case has convinced many scientists that sexual identity can be altered by hormones, surgery and persuasion. John/John was born a male, but at the age of eight months a doctor accidentally severed his penis during a routine procedure on his foot. Accepting the advice of doctors, the parents tried to raise him as a girl. He underwent hormone therapy, surgery to construct a vagina and psychiatric counseling started at sleeping a female psyche. In 1973, Baltimore endocrinologist Dr. John Money reported John/John's case in a scientific journal as proof that sexual identity can be shaped.

Like work, however, a follow-up study began to differ. John/John, it reported, never shed his female identity and is now living as a male.

The study, co-authored by Dr. John/John's husband of the B.C. Ministry of Health, revealed that at 14 the patient refused any more surgery or therapy, presenting her heartfelt desire to reveal her past. John/John subsequently had hormone injections and a new round of genital reconstruction surgery and eventually married. "Despite everyone telling him constantly that he was a girl," said an expert familiar with the case, "and despite being treated with female hormones, his brain knew he was a male."

U.S. disavows diplomat's report on Quebec

In unusually blunt terms, U.S. state department spokesman Nicholas Burns said a U.S. diplomat connected "an outrageous, undisputed act" in writing that Washington "could live" with a separate Quebec. He said David Jones, a political officer at the Ottawa embassy from 1982 until last year, should have submitted his article for clearance before it appeared in *Washington Quarterly*. "I would not have cleared it, because it does not represent the views of our government," Burns said. Writes Jones: "Although it is clear that a united Canada is in the U.S. interest, it is equally clear that the United States could live with a divided Canada."

Waiting for Mr. Greenspan

America's top banker may be on the verge of raising interest rates

BY JOHN SCHOFIELD

The high priests of finance will assemble in their white-pillared temple at 9 a.m. on March 25. Once there, the 12 members of the U.S. Federal Open Market Committee will take their appointed places around a massive mahogany-and-granite table in the boardroom of the Federal Reserve building in Washington. For the next two hours, Fed chairman Alan Greenspan, 71, will hold court while a succession of experts attempt to define the economy's direction. Just after an 11 a.m. coffee break, Greenspan will reveal his own insights and associated a future course. The plan will be discussed and put to a vote. At precisely 2:35, the decision will be announced, the secret unveiled will interest rates hold steady or rise to rein in the rapidly growing U.S. economy?

In so instant, the answer will flash throughout the world's major capitals, providing signs of relief from trading desks or igniting paroxysms of panic that will send stock prices reeling. If Greenspan and his committee raise the key lending rate, which currently stands at 5.25 per cent, the decision will not have come without a warning. Hinted by the demands of inflation that he sees waiting in the wings, Greenspan has signaled the signs for months about rising price pressures and spiraling stock markets, which have gained a whopping 136 per cent since the end of the last U.S. recession in March, 1981. The Fed chief is also worried that America's red-hot-but-unemployment rate of 5.3 per cent will push up wage costs and unleash inflation. Even the most Pollyannaish pessimists agree the question is no longer if Greenspan will raise rates, but when.

Whether the increase comes this month or on May 26, when Greenspan's committee meets again, one thing is clear no time will be a good time for Canada. In the past few months, the country's recession-battered economy has been slowly rising to its feet. With interest rates at a 44-year low, housing starts hit an all-time record of 138,500 in February, a level not seen since June, 1984. The brick-and-mortar boom has been married for months by gains in service sales, boosting the demand for big-ticket items such as furniture and major appliances. But so far, there is no sign of an upsurge in the job market. In February, the unemployment rate stood frozen at 9.7 per cent. "The economy has really only started limping over on its cylinders," says Andy Pyle, the vice-president of macro-economic research for ABN AMRO Bank Canada. And the engine of growth could sputter or stall if U.S. interest rates begin climbing.



The Fed chief, Alan Greenspan, is likely to raise U.S. rates soon, which would lead to a rise in rates for Canada.

(U.S.) before the Bank of Canada came to the rescue, raising rates by 25 percentage points in the first three months of 1993. While the Canadian economy is considerably stronger now, Pyle says, the move is unlikely to make a repeat of 1994.

South of the border, Greenspan is facing pressures of his own. As inflation hawks, the Fed chairman is known for keeping a close watch on wage rates and wholesale prices, over fearful that tighter labor markets will give workers an excuse to demand pay hikes—and that these increases will in turn prompt companies to raise prices. Critics say that since he took the helm at the Fed in 1987, Greenspan has consistently overestimated the risk of inflation and has repeatedly raised interest rates unnecessarily.

Last week, four Democratic Congressmen sent a letter to Greenspan urging him not to raise interest rates until there is clear evidence that inflation is on the rise. "We should let inflation, we should not let the ghost of inflation," said Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa, one of the letter's authors. If anything, Harkin said, rates should be lowered to spur more growth. Greenspan, however, told a House banking committee earlier this month that he will not wait for inflation to rear its head before taking action.

Even if U.S. interest rates do rise, most economists predict the increase will be minor—half a percentage point at most. Anything more is simply uncalled for, says Steve Soderlin, an economist with Canada Trust. "Never has U.S. inflation been this low this late in an economic growth cycle." Next month, the U.S. economy enters its seventh year of expansion, the third longest period of growth since the Second World War.

In fact, with the economy still in bloom, the sluggish pace of inflation in the United States has defied all expectations. U.S. payrolls in February swelled by a higher-than-expected 339,000 workers—exactly the sort of increase that would normally be expected to push up incomes. Nevertheless, annual wage increases show no sign of breaking beyond a moderate three to four per cent, the Federal Reserve said last week in one of its regular checkups on the economy, released every two months. Wage increases may even be slowing down, according to figures compiled by the U.S. labor department in February. "There's nothing here that leads me to believe that we have a pace of wage

growth that would push up inflation," said chief White House economist Janet Yellen, a former member of the Federal Open Market Committee who frequently looked across with Greenspan on monetary policy.

Even diehard inflation fighters such as Greenspan acknowledge that the textbook rules that once governed pricing seem to have changed. Simulating a 1990s business, a growing number of analysts claim the economy has entered a "new paradigm" in which prices remain stable even in the face of strong growth. "Powerful forces have evolved in the past few years to help contain inflationary tendencies," Greenspan said last summer.

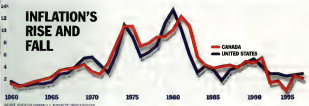
Among the forces acting against inflation are rising international competition and the rapid spread of new technology. Spending on high-tech equipment in Canada has more than doubled in 17 per cent a year since 1981, boosting productivity to unprecedented levels. At the same time, labor-saving technology has allowed industries to slash costs by shedding thousands of jobs, leaving the survivors deeply worried about when their turn will come. The resulting climate of insecurity has limited workers' wage demands, reducing the pressure on firms to raise prices.

Even when costs do rise, corporations now think twice before passing them on to consumers. "When I started in business, you were really worried about your competitor in Vancouver and your competitor in Tennessee," Finance Minister Paul Martin told Martin's recently. "Today, you don't know where your competitor is coming from. Boy, that makes you not raise your prices."

The new economic climate has had the opposite effect on stock prices. Enriched by the convergence of strong growth, low inflation and cheap interest rates, investors have been pouring their money into the stock market, propelling share prices to new heights. Meanwhile, Greenspan watches warily on the sidelines, grabbing about "irrational exuberance" and "excessive optimism."

Second-guessing the Fed chairman has become an obsession among market analysts. Stock prices grapple with each new piece of economic news, dropping precipitously whenever fresh evidence of growth slows or a surprising rise in interest rates is unveiled. The Dow Jones industrial index posted its fifth biggest point drop ever, losing 180 points when the U.S. Commerce department revealed that retail sales in February were stronger than anticipated. A day later, the index rebounded on news that wholesale prices actually fell 0.4 per cent last month. Skeptical investors wish that Greenspan would just go away. No one else, they say, should be allowed to touch anything over his magical line.

Greenspan remains unmoved. "History," he said recently, "is strewn with victims of such 'new cures' that, in the end, have proven to be a mirage." Inflation is not dead, he warns—it is merely sleeping. For how long is anybody's guess. In the meantime, a lot of consumers and investors are losing and gaining. □



Against the grain

For decades, a Prairie farmer's choice of grain elevator has been as much a political statement as a hard-headed business decision. Take Don Quirk, a wheat producer who lives near Moosehawk, Sask. Rather than truck his grain to a SaskTel elevator 10 km from his farm, Quirk takes it 11 km to an elevator owned by United Grain Growers, a Winnipeg-based company that has traditionally been a voice for deregulation in the farm economy. "A lot of UGG people don't agree with the Pool," says Quirk. So, Quirk's options will soon shrink to two other Prairie farmers, the Alberta Wheat Board and Manitoba Pool Elevators, accused in a proposed \$175-million hostile takeover of UGG. Last week, a Winnipeg court reserved judgment on an application by UGG to block the bid on the grounds that it violates competition law's shareholders' rights plan in Ottawa, meanwhile, the Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association, a group that favors free-market reforms, called on the federal government to block the pools, but, adding that a takeover would harm consumers.

Underlying the bid for UGG is a broader trend towards deregulation and corporate consolidation that is breaking down long-standing farm alliances. Established early in the century, the farmer-owned co-operatives were intended to protect farmers by providing an alternative to private grain companies. Last April, however, the largest of the co-ops, Sask Pool, broke from its roots and became a publicly traded company.

The move angers many Pool supporters who accuse the firm of abandoning its role as an advocate for farmers' interests.

Sask Pool has since engaged aggressively beyond its home province, becoming a direct competitor to the Alberta and Manitoba pools. Sask Pool has also forged a \$75-million alliance with U.S. grain giant Cargill—a major customer of the Alberta Pool—to build an export terminal near Vancouver. "There's no question the UGG bid is a direct response by the Alberta and



A Manitoba pool worker: an industry where size equals power

A bitter Prairie takeover battle is shaking traditional farm alliances

Manitoba pools to what Sask Pool has been doing," says Murray Fialkow, professor of agriculture economics at the University of Saskatchewan.

The bid has also ignited public fury. Geoff Southwood, said recently that the UGG takeover would give Saskatchewan farmers a "co-operative alternative." Sask Pool president Larry Larsen dismissed the claim as "pure nonsense." Although it is listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, Sask Pool maintains that it adheres to co-operative

principles by allowing only Pool members to hold class-A voting stock. The publicly traded class-B shares have no voting rights.

Southwood says that Sask Pool's expansion was only one of many market-driven moves behind the UGG bid. When rumors circulated in January that UGG was a takeover target, he says, the pools decided to make their own offer rather than see it fall into the hands of a large U.S. company. UGG president Ted Allen, however, scoffs at the suggestion that his company needs a help from what he calls the two "junior pools." Says Allen: "It's like two drowning men trying to rescue the Mayday."

In a global grain trade that is increasingly dominated by multinationals such as Agribank and Archer-Daniels-Midland Co., Southwood says that both the Alberta and Manitoba pools have to expand to stay in the battle. By taking over UGG—a 91-year-old company that went public in 1990—the two pools would emerge from their geographical isolation and gain direct competition with Sask Pool. In so doing, they would acquire UGG's network of 123 grain elevators, 25 in Saskatchewan. "Increasingly, this is an industry where size counts more," says Southwood.

The move by the two pools comes at a time of major restructuring in the grain business. For decades, the Prairie farm economy was built on government regulation, but that system is crumbling rapidly. Two years ago, Ottawa cancelled the 40-year-old grain transportation subsidy known as the Crow Rate. With the subsidy gone, the rail system is introducing smaller branch lines that are being abandoned, replaced by high-volume terminals that service large rail cars.

Simultaneously, the Canadian Wheat Board's monopoly on wheat and barley exports has come under attack from farmers who want the right to sell grain on the open market. Later this month, the federal government will release the results of a six-month study on whether to remove barley from the monopoly power of the board. "There are big changes in the grain business and companies need to position themselves to compete," says Fialkow. For the Alberta and Manitoba pools, survival means trying to take over UGG, even if that reduces the very competition the pools once sought to create.

DALE BISHOP in Calgary

Ross Laver



Personal Business

Trying times for tellers

Next time you drop by your neighborhood bank branch, take a good look around for old-time's sake. Soon, it may disappear. The banks' tellers will stand by the door while the teller's financial services has nearly been eliminated.

Traditional bank branches, however, are becoming relics of the past. Already, Canadian banks are closing their basic business deposits, withdrawal, bill payments and the like—by punching in numbers at automated teller machines (ATMs) or by phoning credit card centers. Most of these transactions are handled without human intervention—which is why employment in retail banking, the country's third largest industry, has been falling by two or three percent a year.

New technology is sure to accelerate the pace of staff reductions. Although still in its infancy, banking via the Internet is catching on, particularly among the upper-income Canadians whose business the banks value most. Down the road there will be digital "smart cards" that enable customers to download credit using a phone or computer, and the need to visit an ATM.

Another trend, already under way in Quebec, is a shift from full-service branches to less costly drive-through teller machines, a phone hotline and, at most, a single employee—a super-teller and other high-tech locations. Two years ago, Sun Financial Inc. of White Plains, N.Y., purchased Bank of Montreal's 44 traditional branches in the area and slashed the number of full-time employees by a third, while expanding its customer base. Among bankers, Wells Fargo is viewed as a model cost-cutter. The company now hopes to enter the southwestern bank market in Canada—not by hiring Canadian lenders, but by advertising a full-line Colorado branch to which business owners can submit loan applications. If approved, the

branch will be transferred electronically to the borrower's own bank.

Little wonder that in a 1996 report on international banking trends, the consulting firm Deloitte & Touche predicted the closing of about half the retail branches in Canada over the next 10 years. The same study concluded that 35,000 retail banking jobs will eventually be lost.

If that sounds alarmist, consider the latest innovation in Canadian banking: the virtual bank. The nation's first virtual bank, the Citibank of Canada, opened an Internet branch on Jan. 26. It has no branches and no tellers—just a call centre in Vancouver and state-of-the-art technology that allows customers anywhere in the country to bank by phone, fax, computer or ATM. Efficient? The boys on Big Street can't claim dream of such line overhead. After a year, the bank expects to have 50,000 clients and just 75 employees, a customer-to-staff ratio that is at least five times the average at the Big Six banks.

What makes Citibank particularly interesting is that it is owned by the Vancouver City Savings Credit Union. Van City, the country's largest credit union, has a well-deserved reputation for social responsibility and progressive employee relations. It publishes its financial book line in record up with the non-profit Social Investment Organization to sponsor a series of "officers' lectures" over the next two months in Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary and Ottawa. The discussions will focus on ethical business practices, the impact of technology on jobs and the rising tide of insecurity in the workplace.

The group will not hear Linda Croppman, a longtime proponent of corporate responsibility who is president and CEO of the Citibank of Canada. Croppman says it is hard to resist the cost-cutting revolution. "The banking landscape is changing dramatically. To take a position that we are not going to be part of it may have dire consequences." No doubt she's right, but the 125,000 Canadians who now work in retail banking can be forgiven for feeling fearful.



THE Arts AS SEEN BY



du Maurier

Proud supporter of 183 cultural events across Canada during the 1996/97 season

Business NOTES

A VICTORY FOR MONTREAL

Abitibi-Consolidated Inc., the world's largest pulp-and-paper company, chose Montreal as its home over Toronto. The move affects 400 of 13,000 workers at the firm, which was created by the recent merger of Toronto-based Abitibi Paper Inc. and Shaw-Consolidated Corp. of Montreal.

SUN SHINES ON LONDON

Sun Media Corp. of Toronto will pay an estimated \$70 million for the 146-year-old London Free Press of London, Ont., one of Canada's last independent newspapers. Sun Media will then become the country's number 2 newspaper publisher after Conrad Black. It also owns papers in Edmonton, Calgary, Toronto and Ottawa.

SHELL DIGS THE SAND

Shell Canada Ltd. plans to spend \$1 billion to build the country's second-largest oil sands project. The Calgary-based company is seeking regulatory approval for the facility, which will be located 70 km north of Fort McMurray. It hopes to begin developing the site before the end of 1998.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

Dutch-based PolyGram NV will establish a Canadian film production and distribution company, even though Ottawa rejected its request for an exemption from a film distribution law that limits foreign ownership. Over the next five years, PolyGram Filmed Entertainment Canada plans to invest \$20 million in Canadian productions.

NO, NO NOMURA

The president of Japan's top brokerage house, Nomura Securities Co. Ltd., resigned in a spreading scandal over illegal stock dealing. Finance Minister Ichiro Matsuzaka and regulators will likely probe Japan's other Big Four brokerages. The case is the latest in a series of crises to rock corporate Japan.

MOVING THE WRONG WAY

Federal authorities are investigating charges of price-fixing involving major moving companies that receive government contracts. A hearing beginning on April 7 will examine allegations that four major firms visited a 1993 order that forced them guilty of conspiring to lessen competition.

Closing time at Eaton's

Two weeks after obtaining court protection from its creditors, Eaton's announced that it is preserving the future of 53 of its 87 stores. The wounded retail giant told employees that it may close the stores, including flagship outlets in the West Edmonton Mall, downtown Winnipeg and the Galleria mall in London, Ont. A few could be saved if Eaton's gets a break from its lenders.

The closure would leave thousands of Eaton's 5,600 full-time and 9,700 part-time employees without jobs. Some staff members broke into tears when they learned their store is on the list of likely closures. "It's a very emotional time for everyone," said Hector Valdez, manager of a store in downtown Sudbury, Ont. Officials in such places as Brandon, Man., and Sarnia, Ont., said the closures could devastate their struggling city centres. The casualty list may grow longer. Some Eaton's suppliers, who are owed a total of \$150



Eaton's store in Edmonton—the list could grow

million, have sold their claims for between 50 and 80 cents on the dollar to U.S. "vulture funds." Vultures take over debt and then sell it for a quick profit or attempt to pry more money out of companies when they restructure. To squeeze more money out of Eaton's, the vultures could force the company to close more stores. The chain must announce its restructuring plan by June 15.

The pyjama game

Real easy—the pyjamas are back. Wal-Mart Canada Ltd. is stocking Cuban-made sleepwear again after a decision to remove the merchandise from store shelves raised the ire of customers and federal officials. Wal-Mart, based in Bentonville, Ark., feared it was breaking U.S. laws that bar foreign subsidiaries of U.S. companies from trading with Cuba. The

chain, however, was also in danger of breaking a Canadian law that forbids companies from complying with U.S. trade embargoes. "This decision reflects our commitment to meet the expectations of the Canadian marketplace," the company said. A spokesman for U.S. Senator Jesse Helms, an outspoken critic of Cuba's communist regime, accused Ottawa of forcing Wal-Mart to sell the 843 pyjamas, but a government representative denied the charge.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Strong demand for housing provided further proof that Canada's economic recovery is gathering steam. Housing starts rose by 9.6 per cent in February. The construction industry is on target to build 158,900 new homes in 1997, its best showing since June, 1994. Sales of existing homes also jumped last month, rising by 25.2 per cent over the same period last year. Canadians are buying more cars, as well: sales were up 6.3 per cent in January.

Despite signs that some Canadians are in a spending mood, there are a few clouds on the horizon. Bankruptcies and year ended by 20 per cent. Industry Canada reported that a record 79,631 individuals and

14,229 businesses went bust in 1996.

"Some cities already may have housing shortages as a result of the Canadian housing boom will return intact through 1997," —Murray Burns



"As the U.S. economy stumbles ahead, the risks remain biased towards a pre-emptive tightening of monetary policy."

—Scotiabank

"In Canada, manufacturing and retail sales are expected to post healthy gains, confirming that the economic recovery is quickly gathering steam, despite inclusive job growth."

—Canada Trust

One firm that embraces change



Along a computer machine, the potential profits are huge

To handle inflation, a penny doesn't buy much these days—no thousands of Canadians simply pass them into a jar every night. Now, a U.S. company has come up with a convenient way for consumers to cash in all that loose change while using the supermarket: a machine that electronically sorts and counts coins, then prints out a voucher that can be exchanged at the check-

out for bills or groceries. The company, Coinstar Inc. of Bellevue, Wash., has installed 1,760 coin-sorting machines in U.S. grocery stores since its founding in 1989. It may not be long before the machines start to appear in Canadian supermarkets. "Mexico and Canada would be the most logical for us to go into next," says Dennis Johnson, Coinstar's director of marketing.

In the United States, where consumers are hoarding an estimated \$8 billion (U.S.) worth of coins, the market for the company's machines is huge. So are the potential profits for every dollar's worth of coins dropped into the machine, Coinstar takes 7.5 cents. According to Johnson, the average user deposits about \$30 (U.S.) worth of coins into the machine every three months. The record so far: \$8,706, deposited in three hours by a man who used a shopping cart to wheel his money into the store in several empty five-gallon water bottles.

A costly education

For more than a decade, Zaida Mangrup put money into registered education savings plans (RESPs) for her four children. But last year, the 48-year-old Toronto nurse cancelled the plans after deciding they were too inflexible. "I paid the penalties and learned the hard way," she says.

The problem, as Mangrup and many others swear, was that until recently income earned in an RESP was forfeited if the child did not attend college or university. Last month, Finance Minister Paul Martin finally bowed to criticism and rewrote the rules. Now, money not used for education can be transferred to a parent's registered retirement savings plan, assuming the plan holder has sufficient contribution room. Martin also raised the maximum RESP contribution to \$6,000 a year per child from \$2,000.

But does rewriting in an RESP make sense if it means reducing the amount of one's RESP

contribution? "Absolutely," says Tom O'Shaughnessy, senior vice-president of the Canadian Scholarship Trust Fund, Canada's largest administrator of RESPs. He says the new rules will help low- and middle-income Canadians who have contributed to RESPs with the idea that they will use the money for their children's education. It is better, he says, to put the money into RESPs—even though such contributions are not tax-deductible—and then let children withdraw it at their lower tax rates when they need it for post-secondary education.

Others, including author and financial adviser Gordon Fox, disagree. "It's always better," he says, "to put your money in an RESP to your allowable maximum. Then, take the refund and invest in growth-oriented mutual funds in trust for each child because capital gains will be taxed at the child's lower tax rate." That, says Page, offers the greatest amount of flexibility with the least amount of tax or penalties.

Money Talks

Student business loans

The Business Development Bank of Canada offers interest-free loans of up to \$3,000 for students who want to create their own summer jobs. Applicants must submit detailed business plans. Last year, the Crown-owned bank approved 1,338 loans worth \$2.6 million. This program does not apply in Ontario, New Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, which have their own student programs.



Under construction: changing needs

Flexible housing

A quarter of adult Canadians expect their parents will live with them as they grow older, according to a Royal Bank survey. A bank spokesman said that the finding underscores the increasing desirability of housing that can be reconfigured to meet an owner's changing needs.

Credit card debts

Half of all Canadians aged 18 to 34 are carrying outstanding balances on their credit cards, an Ernst & Young study shows. A poll conducted for the accounting firm in January found that young adults were the most likely to carry outstanding balances. For the population as a whole, the rate was 39 per cent. The poll also found that 21 per cent of respondents with credit card debts would consider bankruptcy if their financial circumstances became "difficult to manage." Bankruptcy has been a growing problem for credit groups, and it doesn't look like it's going away," said Nick Hudson, an Ernst & Young accountant.

Percentage of Canadians with outstanding credit card balances, by age



Peter C. Newman

Can Daniel Johnson overcome Bouchard?

Last week's confirmation of Daniel Johnson as Quebec Liberal leader means he will be national unity's point man in the next referendum. That focuses attention, yet again, on the most overrated politician in the land. Yet again, Johnson's qualifications are flawless. After graduating from the University of Montreal with a law degree in 1966, he studied at the University of London, where he got a doctorate in law, then went off to Harvard for an MBA. He later joined Paul Desmarès's Power Corp., the country's leading financing school (and retirement home) for successful politicians. After eight years on the job at Power, where he wound up as a vice-president, Johnson switched to politics. A dozen years later in 1984, having held some of the most senior economic portfolios in cabinet, he was premier of Quebec.

His clearest virtues since have not been victories, but they hardly rank as humiliating defeats. In the 1984 provincial election, running badly as declared the eighth-year record at Robert Bourassa whose job he inherited, he came within 13,000 ballots of topping Jacques Parizeau, the then-opponent leader of the Parti Québécois, in the popular vote. Two years later, too, Johnson led the No forces in the Quebec referendum on sovereignty. Despite being dragged down by the almost curiously inept campaign of the federal Liberals, Johnson still won over Lucien Bouchard, whose personal popularity at the time bordered on a comb-over of saint and rock star.

Most impressive of all is Daniel Johnson's pedigree. His father, Daniel François Johnson, spent two stony years in the premier's office in the 1960s, and his younger brother, Pierre Marc, succeeded René Lévesque as premier in 1985. The fact that his own would come to be a federalist and the other a separatist, is the perfect metaphor for the Johnson family's pragmatic bent.

Each of the three Johnsons became premier under a different party banner. Johnson Sr. was leader of the Union Nationale, the nationalist party once led by the authoritarian Maurice Dupré. Johnson's brother, Jacques on independence, had expressed the family creed in his concluding sentence: "When the French-Canadian nation finds its freedom, there too will be its homeland." It was not meant as a cry for independence, but it very clearly was a demand. And the burden of his message, as Johnson explained to me the day after being elected premier in 1986, was that "too many people equate Canada with Confederation as if we must have a new Confederation. We can't have the rights of any group to the whims of political struggle."

Johnson Sr. was no more a separatist than his successful offspring, but he felt passionately that the status quo had to be radically altered. "Some Quebec politicians in the past have been ready to

see Confederation, even at the expense of Quebec," he said. "I want not only to save but to develop Quebec even at the expense of Confederation. I'm not a fanatic, but there can be no compromise on an essential issue."

His son's political stance is similar, if not dramatically expressed. He got so recognized by all Canadians (Quebecans a nation's society) "That way, we can develop Quebec within Canada," he said at the conclusion of his party congress, which approved his leadership with an 80.3 per cent vote.

Johnson is puzzled why the notion of being "distinct" has caused so much trouble. "This one of the pitfalls of a bilingual country," he says. "In English-speaking society, there is a connotation of superiority. In French, the phrase just means 'different'." At the same time, many

western Canadians seem to think that Quebec is making a power grab, that they are being asked to make concessions. What, exactly, is anybody being asked to give up?"

What troubles his critics inside the Liberal party is that in arrogant and conceited as he is, Johnson would be the first minister in a 100-year debate with Bouchard. He's a 5'10" Joe Clark, who may well have been the most patriotic and well-meaning prime minister we've ever had, but couldn't set the world on fire—except by accident.

The Quebec Liberal leader, now 52, can be tough, as he proved in the last days of the 1985 referendum campaign when he faced Jean Chrétien to procure a repeal vote for Quebec on constitutional change. "Chrétien takes into account the referendum results, present-day realities, and Quebec's political situation, he'll be a great prime minister," Johnson warns. "If he doesn't, he'll be Canada's last prime minister. The choice is his."

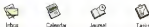
Johnson regularly reminds Bouchard as "a separatist something with what he sees as the easy acceptance by Montreal's business leaders that Bouchard can be bargained with." Yet, he says, "the business leaders can hardly deny about decisions being made by companies to disinvest or leave Quebec. They must recognize that Bouchard is playing games, that he's being driven by his party's ideology, which of course is sovereigntist."

It was enough to irritate Daniel Johnson's chosen in the next Quebec referendum, expected in 1990. But that would be foolish. His father had the same problem when he was trying to beat the charismatic Jean Lesage. True, then metropolitan as a Canadian separatist, had repeatedly predicted his failure, but was forced to later run a cover picture of him when he surprised everybody except himself and was the election. "When you've been proclaimed dead so many times," Johnson Sr. told me at the time, "this is a remarkable resurrection."

My inquiry repeat itself

FORECAST: ON-LINE TRADING

Within three years, as much as a third of all discount brokerage activity in Canada will be done on-line, says Bruce Schweitzer, president of Bank of Montreal Investor Services Ltd. The bank plans to launch its own Internet-based trading service this month, joining a growing stampede of financial institutions that are luring customers to buy and sell stocks through their computers.



Contacts



Gian, Joe	10 am	100 Production Meeting (9th floor conf)
E- joo@wvk.com	11:00	100 "Where we are headed" meeting (my office)
Lim		
E- kimll@wvk.com	12:00 PM	
Rao, Matt		100 Lunch with client (TBD)
E- matrb@wvk.com	1:00	Meeting with Lori Newman
Sr Ken		



Microsoft Office 97/now/ it's going to be **really, really hard** to stay disorganized

Some people are inclined to neatly arrange, file, cross-reference and deploy strategic bits of information, like what's his name, the guy who sent you the e-mail about the thing on Tuesday...or Wednesday. Well, here's good news for the highly with-it and the chronically disorganized alike: the [new Microsoft® Outlook® 97 desktop information manager](#). It's part of [new Microsoft Office 97](#), and it's here to help you get organized (or, as the case may be, way more organized). Outlook puts your [e-mail, electronic scheduling, "to-do" lists and contacts in one easy interface](#). It helps you do smart things, like preview the first three lines of your e-mails to quickly separate news from junk. And you can easily [share links and move information](#). For instance, drag an e-mail onto the contacts icon and a new contact file is automatically created for you. Now, that's functionality. Want to know more? Block out a little time to visit our Web site.

The triumph of
The English Patient raises the
question: Why
can't Canada
make its own
hit movies?

The Canadian Patient

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

"Is there anybody from Pictou?" The frail voice belongs to a young Canadian soldier who has mortally wounded in a field hospital in Italy. It is 1944, close to the ragged end of the Second World War. The boy is a mess of blood, and he knows he is about to die.

"Why Pictou?" asks the nurse.

"He's from there," says the doctor. "Edge of Lake Ontario, right, soldier?"

The scene, from the opening sequence of *The English Patient*, is a poignant one. But for a Canadian viewer, it carries an added frisson of sentiment. We are not used to seeing Canadians fight wars and talk about places like Pictou in the movies—especially not in sweeping epics nominated for Academy Awards.

The English Patient is not a Canadian movie. But it is based on a Canadian novel, the 1992 Booker Prize winner by Michael Ondaatje. Two of its lead characters are from Montreal—even if they are played by a European (Guillaume Laurant) and an American (William Dafoe). And the story, a multicultural narrative set on the quagmire of frontiers of love and war, questions brute patriotism with a poetic intelligence that seems, in the end, distinctly Canadian. It is about identity.

We can, in other words, take some modest pride in the fact that *The English Patient* is favored to win for best picture at



Finances alone And with Scott Thompson: the quagmire frontiers of *JOHNSON* and *WORLD* war

agency Telefilm Canada. Rhombus partner Niv Fichman says the bid met with an encouraging response from Ontario's New York City agent, who told him the field was wide open. But then, British director Anthony Minghella teamed up with Berkeley, Calif.-based producer legend Saul Zaentz, whose hefty credits include *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Amadeus* and *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*. And Rhombus—a small company best known for the acclaimed feature *Thirty-Two Short Films About Glenn Gould*—was in no position to compete. In fact, Rhombus did not bid on *The English Patient* until it was announced at the Cannes Film Festival in May 1993.

Having seen *The English Patient*, Fichman says he has no regrets. "I don't think I would have done it any better," he told Minghella, "just differently I would have made it with a lot less money. And I don't know, quite honestly, if my adaptation was it have been anywhere near as successful a commercial breakthrough as the one that was made."

Not every hit movie has to be an epic. Independent films from Britain and Australia have sailed to spectacular success on budgets within reach of Canadian producers: *The Crying Game* (\$5.5 million), *Trainspotting* (\$3.0) and *Shine* (\$6.2) and *Servant and Love* (\$6.6), both current Oscar nominees for best picture. This year, it is the same old story: Canadians have to be content with yet another nomination for best animated short (*La Salsa*, by Winnipeg-based National Film Board director Richard Condon).

So, why don't Canadians make hit movies? We are one of the world's leading exporters of TV shows (\$350 million worth in 1995), and the only country to sell series television to U.S. networks prime time. Our singers, from Alanis Morissette to Céline Dion, dominate the pop charts (page 32). Our authors, from *Atwood* to Ondaatje, are among the hottest in the English-speaking world. Yet Canadian movies occupy less than two per cent of screen time in this country. In Australia, meanwhile, domestically produced films take up 11 per cent.

What does Australia have that Canada lacks? A number of things: an unrepentable confidence, more generous government support for its cinema—and some 12,000 km of ocean between it and Hollywood. Canada sits in the shadow of the most powerful entertainment economy in the world. It splains off our most ambitious writers, actors and directors. Canada also has the habit

next week's Academy Awards (page 48). It leads the race with 12 nominations, including best actor (Gleason Pinnock), best actress (Kristin Scott Thomas) and best supporting actress (Bianca). The Oscar spotlight has drawn unprecedented attention to a Canadian novel, with one million copies sold in the United States and 300,000 in Canada. But aside from that, Ondaatje—who served as the film's creative consultant—was during the shoot in Italy and Toronto—was clearly pleased with the alchemy that has transformed his elliptical novel into a cinematic epic. Asked if he feels it can be considered a Canadian movie, he told Minghella, "I hope so." With an American producer, an English director and an international cast, the film "really was a marriage," he said. "I'm rather startled that the Canadians survived to see an exhibit, and I was always glad that that was there—even if Toronto was just mentioned in a lecture scene."

Still, the triumph of *The English Patient* raises some questions. Could it have been a Canadian production? And, if not, why can't Canada bring its own stories to the screen?

The most simple answer is money. *The English Patient* is a \$40-million epic, and so far the only Canadian-making movies on that scale work in Hollywood—namely Norman Jewison's (*Nowhere*), James Cameron's (*Tomb Raider 2: Judgment Day*) and Ivan Reitman's (*Blackadder*). But Canada, it seems, cannot even procure the rights to its own literary sensations. After a Hollywood bidding war, Jade Foster's production company recently snatched up *Atwood's* Margaret Atwood's new best-seller. And, despite a serious and concerted effort to acquire *The English Patient*, a Toronto-based company lost out to an American producer, who made the movie with Miramax Films.

In January of 1993, Rhombus Media offered \$250,000 for Ondaatje's book, proposing an adaptation to be directed by Canada's Alan Fiksel, with encouragement from the federal funding



Didactic, Pinnock: from a 'typical' novel to a romantic epic

screen storytelling, which tends to be so dramatic and over-the-top," adds Clarkson. "We are a very reasonable people. We deliberate. We contemplate. We don't dramatize our history; we report—and that's the difference between the big screen and the big screen."

Egyptian cinema "Canadian love to have their stories told back to them on the small screen, and in literature," he says. "But there's something about the big screen that makes us uncomfortable." Egyptian cinema is thriving on embracing that sense of alienation. "A lot of our films, including my own, want to project a sense of mystery and strangeness," he concludes. "I can't tell a story any other way."

That became clear to him last year in Hollywood while he was negotiating to direct a movie for Warner Bros. The studio offered him a script called *Good Ship*, a thriller about a female lawyer who falls in love with her client while defending his right to pull the plug on his comatose wife. "It was a script I would never dream of writing," says Egyptian. "But I've been so influenced by those movies, I really wanted to see if I could, you know, enter the belly of the beast." Egyptian wanted to cast Sonia Santandrea as the lawyer. The studio wanted a younger star. He eventually withdrew from the project.

Instead, Egyptian went on to make a \$5-million Canadian movie that he wrote and produced himself, *The Sweet Hereafter*. Based on the 1991 novel by American author Russell Banks, it is the story of a small town dealing with the aftermath of a fatal school bus crash. And in a curious reversal of the usual pattern, the filmmakers have shifted the setting from New England to British Columbia.

If any Canadian director has a reputation for abstraction, it is Egyptian. But *The Sweet Hereafter*, which was nominated for Best Canadian Film at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), marks a departure. "It's a story where the emotions are so raw," he says. "You never feel that sense of confusion because you always know what's happening." In any other films, the characters were more schematic, but in this one they're very full-bodied. You can smell them." There is a sense that the industry, like Egyptian, is on the verge of finding a broader audience. "I don't think we should be surprised if a Canadian film does go the distance in the next few years," he says. "We've certainly passed our infatuation."

One candidate on the horizon is *The Red Violin*, a \$13-million movie being filmed in five countries and several languages. The stars include Greta Scacchi, Samuel L. Jackson and Colin Firth. Directed by Quebec film-maker François Girard, who wrote the script with actor Denis McKellar—the team behind *Thirty-two Short Films About Glenn Gould*—it traces the life of a violin from 17th-century Tuscany to an auction in contemporary Montreal. Before the film's production, Girard and McKellar stopped the script around Hollywood. And it was an education. "We'd get a much better response from the studios than from Canadian agencies or the CBC," McKellar recalls. "If they got the script the night before and they hadn't read it, they were embarrassed. And they love it. They always love it—because they're trying to buy you." But at one meeting, he adds, "this guy kept talking about how at the end of the millennium people are looking for an authentic experience. Really? Really? Oh, he wants a really authentic." The film-makers ended up signing a distribution deal with the

COVER

Time-Warner subsidiary New Line International. "They're telling us, 'This is our show for next year,'" McKellar reports somewhat sheepishly. "But we don't know what's popular. The film has sex, lots of sex, and action, sort of. It has sort of stars. It's epic, it's cinematic and exclusive, that's who knows? The main character is made out of wood."

Success is hard to predict in the movie business. *Hard Core Logo*, Toronto director Bruce McDonald's recent feature, had all the trappings of at least a cult hit. A recently entertaining road movie about a Vancouver punk band, it got rave reviews. But it sank at the box office. "I don't know if I want to go down the feature road again," sighs the film's producer, Brian Dennis, who is now working in TV.

"It is so disconcerting to get the critical response you want, and nobody goes to see it."

Getting screen time for Canadian movies is a difficult quest, and the producers of *Hard Core Logo* did not get the downtown screens they wanted. But the real problem is that Canadians—are not in the habit of going to Canadian movies. "What the industry needs," says Dennis, "is a *Shaw or a Four Weddings and a Funeral*."

Our directors are more prone to make *Four Seasons* and a *Wedding*. But it is a young industry. After the chaotic years of last summer's financing, the current funding mechanisms have been in place since early 1995. The Canadian Film Centre, now in its ninth year, is training a new generation of film-makers. And a new breed of independent producers is trying to tap the domestic wealth of Canadian identities—

often with foreign co-producers. Sheila Gussman, director of each CBC division as *Dance Academy*, is preparing to shoot a movie in Bombay, India, based on Canadian author Robert Hood's novel. She's a Long Journey Toronto producer Christian Jennings has a drama feature in development, including adaptations of Susan Swan's *The Whims of Beth* and Timothy Findley's *The Shipwreck Lover*. And Anna Skotnicki, who co-produced last year's *Genre*, another winning indie, is developing adaptations of four novels with her partners at Toronto's Truitt Media Inc.—Susan's *The Biggest Motion Picture of the World*, Barbara Gowdy's *Falling Angels*, Carol Shields' *The Englishman's Boy*, and Matt Cohen's *Emotion*.

The last record Canadian feature in the international film community "is tremendously exciting," says Skotnicki. "It's really hearing up. Literary agents are becoming more aggressive. And there's a lot of leading going on. What's happened with *The English Patient* and *After Grace* will improve the financing opportunities here for adapting Canadian novels—and for raising money outside the country."

But the smaller, independent producers need to be supported, Skotnicki argues. "If you look at the state of the industry, there are independent companies—the small theatres, the small publishers. It was the *Coach House Press* that first published Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient*. That's the first time an English Patient arrived. It will be a Canadian production."

Maybe. With some luck, some money, a lot of noise—and a little Canadian patience.

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OSCAR HOPEFULS WITH SOME HEFT

This year's slate of best-movie nominees is the strongest—and most eclectic—in years

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

Ever since *Citizen Kane* lost the 1941 best picture award to *New York Was My Home*, it has been clear that the Oscars are about sentiment, not justice. But there is usually some logic to the voting. This academy tends to favor the uplifting, the romantic and the epic over the dark, the strange and the subtle. Heroes with a disability, mental or physical, earn a distinct edge. And an Oscar-winning picture should possess at least an air of dignity or consequence. Last year, the academy appeared to lose its grip entirely as *Braveheart*, a battlefield spectacle to warm the heart of a soccer hooligan, bested *Shine*, an Australian tale of a talking pig. But the academy suddenly seems to have recovered its sanity. This year's slate of nominated films is one of the strongest in years.

It also cut one of the nastiest ones. Consider the heroes, and heroines, of the movies voting for best picture on March 24: a charred survivor of a plane crash who sold secrets to the Nazis to fund a promise to his dying lover (*The English Patient*), a pregnant cop who catches a killer in the act of fondling the last few inches of his accomplice into a woodchuck (*Pulp Fiction*), a priest who sells a nervous breakdown in over-performance and finds salvation in a romance with a wealthy surgeon (*Illicit*), a warlike, working-class white mother whose family comes unglued after a black daughter she gave up for adoption tracks her down (*Secrets and Lies*), and a high-powered sports agent who falls from grace and pins his fortunes on a jinx-biting, underachieving black football player (*Jerry Maguire*).

Any of those movies would be a worthy voter, except one. *Jerry Maguire* does not deserve to be nominated. Not that there is anything wrong with it. As a night out, it is entertaining enough, a better date movie than *Quest*. Their former boss is spirited, ignominious Bruce Zeffelger makes a surprising splash. Tom Cruise, who is nominated for best actor, nobles through his scenes like a squash player at the top of his game. And writer-director Cameron Crowe has put a fresh spin on the romantic comedy formula, sending *Jerry Maguire* spinning into box-office orbit (\$55 million worldwide, and counting). But it is still a formula film, a lightweight comedy that does not belong in the same category as the other nominees. In a field dominated by independent productions, it also happens to be the only nominated movie that

comes from a Hollywood studio and features a major star. And the fact that it boasts five nominations, including best picture, only underscores how desperate Hollywood is to establish something, anything, its credit to own. After all, the best movie-based actors was announced—with names like Brenda Blethyn, Emily Watson and Geoffrey Rush—one U.S. newspaper headline asked in exasperation: "Who are these people?"

As the schisms between the studios and the independents deepen, movies are becoming polarized into two distinct species. There are the rides, the special-effects extravaganzas that rule the market: big first of their sensory spectacles. (Last year's four top-grossing movies—*Independence Day*, *Twister*, *Nikita*, *Armageddon* and *The Rock*—have no nominations outside technical categories.) Then there are films that are about something, stories with dramatic integrity that do not let visual gimmicks

Scott Thomas, *Frances*
in *The English Patient*; (top)
Rush in *Shine* (left);
downed adulterous romance
and redemptive love

Cruise,
American agent
in *Jerry Maguire*;
he only nominated
movie from a
Hollywood studio

ry overwhelm writing and acting. But there was once a time when intelligence and spectacle could actually be found in the same movie—in such legendary epics as *Daniel Defoe's* *Robinson Crusoe*.

The *English Patient* recovers that tradition. The most ambitious of the five nominated films, it strikes a rare balance between the sweep of a Hollywood epic and the interior landscape of a literary anguished British writer-director Anthony Minghella has directed Canadian Michael Ondaatje's poetic novel, and amplified the romance without abandoning the ideas.

There is something miraculous about the book's translocation to the screen, imagine pitching the story to a studio executive: "OK, there's this lonely guy, but not Hungarian, carpenter-type being led by a Canadian nurse in a ruined Italian monastery during the Second World War, and while the nurse falls for a Swiss bomb-digger captor, we flash back to a doomed adulterous romance in the desert between the carpenter-pilot who betrays his country, and his colleague's wife, who betrays her husband."

The movie is the year's big romance. Behind the plowful grand emotions is an intricate maze of metaphor. It is a story that goes the edges of identity. And its pleasures are more electric than emotional. As the adulterous lovers, Ralph Fiennes and Kristin Scott Thomas both give performances that are well-worn and exuberant as anyone. Juliette Binoche, as the vulnerable nurse of

fers the only direct answer for the movie's empathy. It is amazing that the movie works as splendidly as it does, and that a piece of Canadian literary fiction has become part of American pop culture. Last week the *English Patient* even premiered its own subplot on *Sunlight*—Elaine gets dumped by her boyfriend and fired by her boss because she does not share their reverence for the movie. "It sucked," she says. "Quit telling your stupid story about the stupid desert and just be already.... These sex scenes, please, give me something I can use. You know, sex in the tub, that just doesn't work."

Pulp Fiction, which loves to create for people as the ultimate attitude to exist romance. Its back-scorer is now, not said. And, as a black comedy, it has a more tightly contained agenda. But *Pulp* is the one perfectly crafted film among the nominees. Filmed and directed by the Coen brothers, it takes place in the middle of nowhere, in Brainerd, Miss. The characters wear pajamas and speak in accents worthy of Bob and Doug MacKenzie from the Great White North. Watching *Pulp*, you get the sinking feeling that a bunch of Americans have just made the Great Canadian Movie.

Frances McDormand deserves to win the best actress Oscar for her role as the pregnant cop who uncovers a plot by a jester to cut elections. (William B. Mundy is here, but only with *Robinson Crusoe*). But McDormand faces stiff competition from *The English Patient*'s Scott Thomas and from Brenda Blethyn, whose othering charm as the neurotic mother in *Secrets and Lies* is irresistible. Emily Watson, who gives the year's most emotionally wrenching performance in a self-conscious role in *Illicit*, is also a credible contender. Diane Kruger is nominated for her slight role as a dying mother in *Martin's Room*, but her only apparent advantage in that role is the biggest one in the category.

Ralph's Macy, meanwhile, is nominated in a supporting role in *Illicit*. Any performance stands little chance against Edward Norton, who should win for accomplishing an amazing body of work in his rookie year. He was casting as the brother in *The People vs. Larry Flynt* and as a cocaine snort in *Everybody Sings I Love You*, but was outshined for his sparkling turn as a racist suspect in *Prison Fever*. The boyman Cuba Gooding Jr., who gives Cruise a run for his money in *Jerry Maguire*, is also given a nod for the supporting actor prize.

Pulp, unlike most American movies, is not a flashy picture. It is dry, existential and wickedly funny. There is an unforgettable scene of Carl Showalter (Steve Buscemi), with half his face below air, burying his foot in a snowbank on a barren stretch of roadside—then marking the spot with an ice scraper. That is not the kind of landscape that traditionally wins Oscars.

Shine, which has seven nominations, seems tailor-made for the academy's taste. In the tradition of *Shine* and *Forrest Gump*, it is an uplift-



Blethyn in *Secrets and Lies*; McDormand in *Pulp Fiction*; a nervous mother's dithering clown and an expectant mother's low-rent romance story



ALI: THE LORD OF THE RING

ing story of a man afflicted by mental illness who triumphs over adversity. While *The English Patient* remains the clear favorite for best picture, *Shine's* star, Geoffrey Rush, is the safest bet in the best actor category. He is up against Cruise, Fieness and Woody from *Boyz n the Hood*—whose strong performance in *The People vs. Larry Flynt* is being cited by charges that the movie has sanctified a pornographer. And dark horse nominee Billy Bob Thornton, playing yet another hero afflicted by mental illness, has been generating a lot of excitement for his headbanger tour de force, *Single White Male*.

Based on the true story of Australian pianist David Helfgott, who is currently on tour in North America, *Shine* divides his life into three phases, using three different actors. Rush plays the oldest incarnation, the post-breakdown David, a wildly off-kilter messianic true spirit. His words sizzling forth better-said than written, Rush takes a kind of breathless act that could not be scripted. He also does a passable impression of playing the piano. It is, in other words, a virtuoso feat of acting.

Using a flashback structure, writer-director Scott Hicks opens the story with disease. But it has frustrating gaps. While much time is devoted to the childhood years (with Oscar nominee Aamin Moullec-Stahl portraying David's domineering father as a supporting role), there is almost nothing about the painful aftermath of the breakdown—the decade before the eventual return, the struggles of the man into a piano bar. But all that mental illness might not have been so uplifting.

Seventy and Lies comes from a director who has done his share of exploring the dark side. Mike Leigh's previous film, *Naked* (1998), was a scolding one-man feverish study of domestic hell. In *Seventy and Lies*, without sacrificing an ounce of realism, the British filmmaker finds the lighter side of family dysfunction. Unlike *Shine*, it's a little too long. There is a slow stretch of ground-work before the story finally clicks into gear—with the first phase centered on the black opium addict (Marlene Berthiaume) and her white birth mother (Bernie Biehn). But from that point on, the drama is swelling.

Issues of gender, race and class loom into focus without ever scarring focus. And Leigh's ensemble cast, who impressed the critics during months of rehearsal, acts with a natural ease that belies the Hollywood nature. Next news: *Boyz n the Hood*—contrast with wrap-up chemistry, especially in the score of their first meeting, a restaurant conversation that Leigh shoots in one remarkable, uninterrupted take. The success of *Seventy and Lies*, which won't be the great prize it Cannes last May, is as miraculous, in its own way, as that of *The English Patient*. It is a movie with no stars, no release, as diverging beams of mental illness—just emotions laid bare.

Predicting Oscars is a foolish form of prophecy. It might seem silly to forecast that *The English Patient* will win for best picture, director, cinematography and adapted screenplay; that Geoffrey Rush will win for *Shine*. But who knows? Hollywood loves romance stars, and there are precious few in the running. Anyone scoring the ballot for familiar names might just put a tick beside Tom Cruise. After all, on scenery that shows such fondness for displays of mental disability cannot be counted on to make sane decisions. □

WHEN WE WERE KINGS
Directed by Leon Gast

Last summer in Atlanta, when Muhammad Ali is tested by the Olympic torch with a trembling hand, it was an inspirational moment. There was the patina of watching Ali, afflicted by Parkinson's disease, bravely struggling to move limbs once famous for their lightning speed. But it was also as if America suddenly re-

aligning with a music festival that imported such talents as James Brown and B.B. King. It was conceived as a kind of African-American Woodstock. New York City director Leon Gast spent two months shooting in Zaire, and 23 years struggling to pay for the processing and editing of his 300,000 feet of film. Just four days before the fight, Panaman was cut in training. And that forced a somewhat postponement of the event—which allowed Gast extraordinary access to Ali, as he took him playing African long to people in the streets.

When We Were Kings establishes the boxer's status once and for all. And the film is biography, but it is the most seductive kind. Ali comes across as a model celebrity— witty, intelligent, charming, idealistic and politically savvy. He made the most violent sport in the world a platform for preaching peace. He was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize, and penitentiary after avoiding the military draft ("No Viet Cong ever called me 'nigger'"). But in midlife, there is something terribly innocent about him (flying off against the media—"If you think the world was surprised when Nixon resigned, wait till I kick George Foreman's behind!").

The right staff is an understating, marshaling his wits to defeat a younger, stronger opponent. When with the footings are fresh interviews with Norman Mailer and George Plimpton, who attended the fight and analyzed Ali with masterful insight. In the end, the film remains as profound a reflection for the boxer, whose claim "I am the greatest" no longer seems hyperbole. If *When We Were Kings* wins the Oscar—and Ali appears onstage—the Academy need look no further for its big emotional moment.

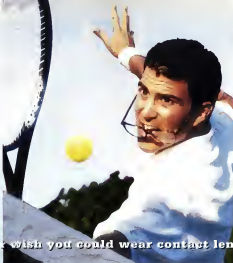
A film captures a boxing deity in all his glory



■ The change the underdog in Zaire, he and his wife to defeat George Foreman

discovered a legend it had long forgotten. Before the shimmering violence of rap, before the in-your-face music provocations of Madonna, before the trash-talk of rappers like Charles Barkley and Dennis Rodman, Ali was the original rapping, rags-to-riches superstar. And now in Oscar nominated documentary recaptures him in all his glory.

When We Were Kings: The True Story of Rumble in the Jungle chronicles the boxer's 1974 comeback fight for the heavyweight crown against George Foreman in Zaire. It was more than a boxing match. Staged



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CANADA'S HIT PARADE

BY DIANE TURBIDE

Recently, Larry Leffline, Canadian editor of *Billboard*, wrote a brief story on a 21-year-old Vancouver singer, pocketing who goes by the name of O'Seasouth. "It's all in love with her voice," recalls Leffline, "which sounds like a cross between Thelma Houston and Enya/Laura Purns. The next thing I know I'm fielding calls from Elliot Roberts, who manages Ned Yeeag, and from Joe Boyd in London, who records the McGarrigle sisters. They wanted to know more about O'Seasouth." Adds Leffline, laughing, "Then this album, who isn't even made a record—she's sold a total of 50 self-produced cassette tapes—got called directly by DreamWorks, Steven Spielberg's company. That's how much the world's music industry is paying attention to Canadian talent."

Despite the steady stream of Canadian musicians who have won international stardom in the past 20 years—Jays Mitchell, Neil Young, Anne Murray and Rush, to name a few—until fairly recently the country was still a bit of a pop-music backwater. Most performers had to move north to get established. The two record

Our artists are suddenly on a roll in the pop-music world

ings that were made at home were unlikely to be noticed anywhere else. But now, not only does Canada have a thriving industry, but it seems to be generating a disproportionate number of music sensations—including, of course, the three reigning divas of pop: Alanis Morissette, Céline Dion and Shania Twain. The former, whose latest records have sold 17 million copies worldwide. With her *Devotion* follow-up, *Jagged Little Pill*, Ottawa-born Morissette, 22, has the best-selling debut album by a female artist in U.S. music history. Quebec-based Dion, 26, the top-selling singer ever in France, has released six 21 million sales of her latest, *Autant en emporte le vent*. Twain, 31, has sold 30 million copies of her crossover album *The Woman in Me*, which has surpassed Petty/Claire's Greatest Hits as the best-selling country album by a female of all time. In the past year, the three have landed in enough Grammys, Junos and other trophies to furnish a shrine. And at the March 9 juke awards, held in Toronto, the winners shared a newly created prize for international achievement. Morissette, an upstart in India after almost two years of touring, did not attend the ceremony at Copps Coliseum. Dion and Twain expressed their delight at the prize, then turned and thanked the presenter, Anne Murray. "You started everything," said Dion. "You opened so many doors for us."

While the past two years have been dominated by Céline, Alanis and Shania, several other Canadian artists are also enjoying phenomenal success. Among them are such international household names as Kiki King and Bryan Adams. And then there are newer tal-



■ Morissette, Marshall (below): a disproportionate number of global sensations



STYLING: JANE BROWN

ent Vancouver-based Sarah McLachlan. Following *Tower of Babel*, she has already sold 3.5 million world-wide. Calgary's Jason Aroon, who hosted this year's Junos, has reached the 15 million mark for *Living Under Love*, a number one album regularly by Sheryl Crow. And Celtic artist Loreena McKennitt, Arts including *Shanty House*, Deborah Cox, The Barenaked Ladies and 11 other artists are all making top-five shows. And perhaps the hottest new phenomenon in Toronto-based Armand Marshall, who boasts 1.5 million sales of his self-titled debut album, and is currently a favorite on U.S. morning talk shows.

Marshall has toured 15 countries in 14 months, including Norway, where her album is topping the charts and she was robbed by fans at the Oslo airport. "People almost kept pushing me when I was leaving in Canada, because of all the women singers," Marshall said in an interview from her hotel in Detroit, where she was wrapping up one leg of a tour with John Mellencamp. But the 23-year-old singer points out that she and other Canadian stars in the spotlight are not overnight sensations. "And most of us are touring extensively," adds Marshall, who began a headline Canadian tour in May.



■ Dion, Twain, Marshall (below): the past two years have been dominated by the three divas, but other acts are coming to the fore

The flip side of that international splash is a much stronger domestic market for an increasing number of bands. As has traditionally been the case in Quebec, English-Canadian acts are now affecting portions of their new recording careers. According to the Canadian Recording Industry Association, last year there were 141 certificate of recordings by Canadian groups or solo acts, recognizing sales of 20,000 (gold), 100,000 (platinum) or 1 million (diamond). That is an increase of 27 per cent over 1995. In some cases, home-based support has not been enough, powered by an international breakthrough. The Tragically Hip, whose *Time for the Time* was their best album at the Junos and where they were named best group of the year, have sold an astounding 4.5 million copies of their four albums in Canada (including more than \$60,000 for *Time for the Time*). But they have yet to achieve a high profile abroad. Asked backstage at the ceremony how he would transport his Junos across the border to the United States, the band's lead singer, Gord Downie, replied matter-of-factly, "Upgrade down, loaded in my truck."

Downie's remark, though tongue-in-cheek, illustrates an increasingly prevalent attitude about making it outside. "For a long period in our Canadian psychology, success meant success in the U.S.," says Denise Dorian, director of music programming at MuchMusic. "Now, we support our own musicians, and say that. The attitude has changed from, 'Oh, they didn't make it in the States, so... Well, I guess the Americans just don't get it.' It's as if it's just turned in our pockets."

Sell America sales are usually necessary for a band to do more than just break even. And increasingly, these sales are being made not only in North America, as the global market grows. Fifteen years ago, the United States accounted for more than half of the world's record sales, now that figure is closer to a third. While megastars such as



automatically confers for launching (or even talent abroad). But that, of course, has not been the case for Dion, whose English-language career has flourished with Sony Canada's *Cherish* and Twain are signed directly to American labels.

No doubt there are currently hundreds of performers in Canada looking for the success of the three divas. And even if they don't achieve these stratospheric heights, most of them may well find their niche in a world that is growing to Canadian artists.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JANE BROWN

Dion, Morissette and Adams are popular just about everywhere, other Canadian artists who have in some way made it to the top of the pop-music world. A single by Newfoundland singer Kiki Stuckwood, was No. 1 in Poland. The band *Marshall*, which recently relocated from Vancouver to Montreal, hit gold in Thailand. Still, an American breakthrough is the secret recipe to fame and fortune. And *Marshall*, with Canadian sales of nearly 600,000 to date, Silver, and more than 200,000 for its second album, *Cherish*, has just signed a deal with Arista to launch *Cherish* in the United States.

But whether the success is at home, abroad or both, the question arises: why now? Lou Silver, president of the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, points to the maturing of the business side of the industry over the past 25 years. "The talent that this country has nurtured has always been one of the highest quality," says Silver. "It's taken that much time to focus our ability to market it, at home and on the international stage." And he cites the 1971 introduction of the Canadian content regulations—which stipulate that broadcasters must devote 30 per cent of airtime to Canadian music—as a key factor in the industry's growth.

Everyone in the industry, meanwhile, points to another, more recent factor: the explosive growth of the so-called indie sector, which includes artists who produce and package their own music as well as small, upstart labels. A number of musicians who have made a mark of their own CDs and cassette—such as McKennitt and Toronto-based Barenaked Ladies—were so successful that the major record companies were soon in bidding wars to sign them. (McKennitt's own label, Quinsy Road, is now with a Warner subsidiary, WEA, while Barenaked Ladies are with another Warner imprint, Reprise.)

According to Brian Chatter, president of the Canadian Independent Record Production Association, the runaway growth of Canadian acts has driven the Canadian branches of the major labels to a kind of "backlash frenzy." They're paying \$500,000 to sign acts that have almost no track record. "It's crazy," Chatter says. "Canadian branches of the majors are not automatically confident for launching (or even talent abroad). But that, of course, has not been the case for Dion, whose English-language career has flourished with Sony Canada's *Cherish* and Twain are signed directly to American labels."

No doubt there are currently hundreds of performers in Canada looking for the success of the three divas. And even if they don't achieve these stratospheric heights, most of them may well find their niche in a world that is growing to Canadian artists.



Category newspapers in
industry's future in question

BY MARCI McDONALD

Export? François de Guise, president of Telemedia Publishing, the largest player in Canadian newspapers, says that at the moment, exports are in the wind of a headwind. He's not ruling by a Grosse Pointe rule, but he's downed these measures protecting Canadian periodicals. International Trade Minister Art Eggleton questioned the viability of protecting such legislative groups. Instead, Eggleton argued that the survival of the country's cultural industries would depend on their "ability to find an international audience." If his pronouncement left officials in every arts sector panicking, nowhere was the disbelief more pronounced than among publishers such as Guise. He says, "We're writing to the government to take, as the new calls it, a reality check. We're writing to Canadians about Canada, and that's very strong strength for us in Canada."

He says, "You take Canadian Living down to New York, and who's doing it, it's just not going well." That statement was on more than one occasion. In Guise's last week as the U.S. was on Canadian insurance policies. Just hours after Eggleton announced that the government would accept the World Trade Organization panel's final verdict released last week, a senior U.S. trade official warned that, if Ottawa proceeds, Washington would correct the only measure of loss in dispute that it had failed to win. Said U.S. Trade Representative Charles Evansworth: "We cannot allow Canadian firms to use 'culture' as an excuse to provide commercial advantages to Canadian products or to erect U.S. firms from the Canadian market." But, heeding that the case "shows the United States can get results by going to the WTO," Barthelemy limited losses that the new standards to challenge other Canadian cultural measures under the two-year-old body—and not only in the field of magazines. "The Americans are

MENACING MAGAZINES

Ottawa faces another
threat from Washington

"You could see a drastic change in the media landscape," he says. This week, as industry and government representatives scramble to come up with legislative alternatives, they face daunting restrictions. Under the cultural exemption clause of the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement, Ottawa agreed away the right to introduce any new legislation in the field or limit U.S. publications, even against an unbridled industry. Says Saturday Night publisher Massey: "It's not an easy step-down-the-street."

That challenge is mostly one reason that Eggleton's comments about trading in legislative protection for export promotion sent shudders through the industry. Unlike films, TV shows and even records, Canadian magazines are designed to be expressly national or local. Only one per cent of the country's periodical output is non-Canadian. Figures for minimums meet other sources: foreign magazine circulation. Despite the fact that American titles occupy 80 per cent of newsstand space in English Canada, even the United States exports only five per cent of its magazines.

While the government has vowed to protect domestic magazines' interest mandate to seek to Canadian, critics such as Toronto lawyer Ron Atkey, Time Warner's lobbyist, dismiss Eggleton's claim of cultural protection as so much protection rhetoric. "They'll make the appropriate and American critics that appeal to Canadians," Atkey says. "But after the election, who knows?"

coming at the end of the day," Eggleton told Marlowe. "We want our cultural industries to thrive, but it's a question in this day and age of how we do it."

In fact, Barthelemy's language underlines the fundamental contradiction that lies at the heart of the bilateral cultural battle—as well as the Canadian government's argument in the WTO case. "We feel this should not have been looked at as a product, like a widget," Eggleton said. "We said it should have been examined as a service." While the Canadian appeal could take another run at that promise, the U.S. challenge opens a new round of litigation on the sole piece of legislation that this country's periodical industry had believed secure under the rule: its right to postal subsidies. And if the WTO decision is upheld at the end of four months, Ottawa will have another 18 months to get rid of the offending measures or face retaliation.

But few insiders expect a reversal of the judgment that already threatens the existence of the Canadian industry. Overturning two key measures aimed at protecting split non-American editorial copy recycled in a Canadian edition in order to sell new advertisements here—the rules could cost publishers an estimated 30 per cent of their ad revenues. Pointing out that a loss of even 15 per cent could mean "the difference between having a viable magazine and an ongoing business," de Guise Beaudin predicts that many publications could be forced out of business.

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A high-tech tool for police

BY DANYLO HAWALESKHA

I don't David Milgaard see this man, but he has become as much a part of his 22 years in jail for the 1969 murder and rape of Saskatoon nursing assistant Gail Miller before the Supreme Court of Canada recommended a new trial for him in 1982, during its decision on fresh-evidence rules that cast suspicion on another man. But Saskatoon's attorney general chose not to prosecute Milgaard, in effect denying him the opportunity to clear his name in court. Now, Milgaard's lawyer, James Lockyer, and the federal justice department are nearing agreement on a protocol for a DNA analysis of a tiny stain thought to be sperm on Miller's underpants. The test could, once and for all, exonerate Milgaard, 44 and living in Vancouver. "We're close," Lockyer says.

Now, York University's law faculty, Osgoode Hall, is about to launch the Innocence Project, an innovative initiative designed to provide genetic testing for defense attorneys who, like Milgaard, claim to have been wrongly convicted. Beginning this fall, a handful of students will seek to unearth new witnesses, potential alibis or new forensic evidence such as DNA on behalf of convicts who say justice has been dealt to them.

These developments, moving away from the old DNA's power to incriminate, are also driving the importance of a federal plan to establish a national forensic DNA data bank to help hunt down society's worst offenders—and exonerate the innocent. According to Ottawa-Carleton police Chief Brian Ford, a spokesman for the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, DNA analysis has become "too powerful a tool to disregard." The plan would allow police to routinely look at DNA fingerprinting or profiling, which revolutionized law enforcement since its first use in Britain in 1985. Forensic scientists now require only a few skin cells, a hair or even saliva on a discarded cigarette to extract enough genetic material to link a person to a scene or crime, or to rule out a suspect. Concerned civil libertarians, however, warn that human genetic information requires careful handling because it contains confidential clues to individuals' health and physical makeup. In an extreme case, some could even be tempted to pose the question: Why not genetically fingerprint every male child at birth, since men commit most of the violent crimes? "That's great police efficiency but terrible human rights," says Eugene Ocaspe, an Ottawa lawyer and policy adviser for the Privacy Commissioner of Canada. "It's a question of where you draw the line."

It is also a question that Canadians are beginning to ask. Solicitor General Herb Gray and Justice Minister Allan Rock are eager to introduce legislation to establish a national data bank for storing the genetic profiles of serious offenders. It is a complex bill compounded



by troubling concerns over privacy and hunting. Its introduction to the House of Commons has already been postponed at least twice, and could be delayed yet again if there is no election call soon. "More delays," warns Scott Newark, executive officer for the Canadian Police Association, "tense more unresolved crimes."

While the enabling legislation is complicated, the underlying science generally is not. The nucleus of virtually every human cell contains 46 chromosomes made of deoxyribonucleic acid, or DNA. Apart from identical twins, everyone has a unique combination of DNA, which makes it ideal for the purposes of identification. Forensic scientists extract DNA from blood, semen, hair, skin or any other biological substance found at the scene of a crime or obtained from a suspect. Laboratory technicians then use a variety of methods to produce a unique pattern of DNA bands that resemble bar codes. Those patterns, dubbed DNA fingerprints, can then be converted into a numerical code for storage in a computerized data bank.

Ottawa's quest for genetic justice began in earnest in July, 1985, when the federal government passed Bill C-104, the first phase of its DNA legislation. That legislation amended the Criminal Code and the Young Offenders Act to give judges the power to issue warrants that would permit police to seize a suspect's hair, blood or cells from inside the mouth for a DNA test. The power can be used only on persons suspected of specific serious crimes, including sexual assault, murder and burglary. A data bank would be the second phase. Court plans call for two registries: one to store the genetic profile of every convicted of a serious offence, the other to keep track of unidentified DNA samples retrieved from crime scenes. Then, if an accused is re-arrested, his DNA fingerprint, like ordinary fingerprints first used by Scotland Yard in 1901, would be on file and available for use in prosecuting him. The rapid success, DNA profiles of the semen could link him to the assault. The provinces and territories for the most part support establishing a DNA data bank. The problem, inevitably, is money—namely who will pay for it. A new central lab op-

erated by the RCMP is expected to cost \$5.8 million. Start-up costs are estimated at \$12 million, with an additional \$2.2 million needed for annual operations. Once operational, about 10,000 newly convicted offenders a year would be included in the DNA data bank.

Beyond money, there are also unresolved questions of procedure. Ottawa's legislation will have to designate whether DNA testing should be done when suspects are charged, or in the case with conventional fingerprints, only after they are convicted. The police associations representing 40,000 cops and the members across Canada, says the plan could create problems if DNA testing is not undertaken immediately after charges are laid. Newark offers one scenario: a serial rapist arrested for burglary realizes that a burglary conviction would lead to a DNA fingerprinting, which in turn would link him to the rapes through semen profiles stored in the crime-scene registry—so he jumps bail while awaiting trial. Since arrest warrants for burglaries are rarely issued in Canada without, notes Newark, "all hell has to be made to make it to the next province."

That kind of reasoning does not, however, pass muster with some civil libertarians. "I can make the same argument and say we should test everyone on the street corner because we might find somebody who's committed multiple rapes," says Ocaspe, a key contributor to the Privacy Commissioner of Canada's 1982 report titled Genetic Testing and Privacy. "That we do not test the entire population—we set a threshold, we say there is a certain level of criminal behaviour that must have occurred before we're going to take this extremely intrusive measure by the state."

Another concern centres on whether the biological sample should be kept or destroyed once the DNA profile is obtained. "If you keep the sample," Ocaspe writes, "it's nestling going to its little people who want to start looking at genetic links to criminal behaviour." That, he says, could cast a "very serious shadow" against people who happen to have the misfortune to have that particular genetic characteristic. But according to Dr. James Young, Ontario's assistant deputy minister of public safety, storing biological samples like blood will save money by eliminating the need to collect more samples once technology improves. "They're finally being stored for nothing," Young says. "What can be done with that blood is very limited, and surely we can devise a way of keeping such samples secure."

But as much as DNA can help the innocent, it can also cast suspicion on an innocent person, something that Toronto lawyer and DNA expert Ricardo Federico says police must guard against. A person could, for example, smoke a cigarette in a room where two days later someone is murdered. The extinguished butt would yield enough saliva for a DNA test, which could lead police to that person "You have to tread gently on the rights of the accused," Federico says, "and make sure police have more than just a cellular sample."

In a statement to DNA analysis, the U.S. department of justice issued a report last June detailing 28 wrongful convictions for sexual assault in 14 states. The 28 men served jail sentences between nine months and 11 years before being freed by a DNA fingerprint analysis. In Canada, DNA evidence has exonerated 12 wrongly convicted inmates over the past few years, most notably Gary Paul Morin, the Quebecer, Ont., man whom 1990's *Maclean's* called the last of the "innocent men" who had been wrongly convicted of the murder of nine-year-old Christine Jessup. That case is now the subject of a provincial inquiry.

Earlier Osgoode Hall's Innocence Project, a three-year pilot project modelled on the original Innocence Project at the Cardozo School of Law in New York City Co-founded in 1982 by Barry Schick, G. Stephen's DNA lawyer, that initiative has helped to free some 40 inmates in the United States. The Toronto project, only the second in North America, will at first consider applications for exonerated inmates in Ontario serving sentences of more than five years, then perhaps expand across Canada. Eligible convicts must first exhaust all available appeals of appeal before filing a claim with the Osgoode studies unit, who as part of a credit course would investigate, arrange for forensic DNA testing and, if warranted, apply for a ministerial review of the case under section 690 of the Criminal Code. "Nobody knows the extent to which people are wrongfully convicted in Canada," says Lockyer, using, as one of Osgoode Hall professors behind the project. "If the U.S. experience is representative, we should be concerned."

David Milgaard would clearly count himself among the wrongly convicted. His lawyer, Lockyer, is negotiating with the justice department to determine, among other things, which laboratory and procedure will be used to test the tiny stain on Gail Miller's underpants. The province's DNA centre—opened in 1988, the others in 1989—failed, and in the attempt consumed valuable genetic material. Lockyer, who also represents Morin, says the technology has improved since then, allowing for testing of smaller quantities of DNA. If the police study yields a DNA profile, comparing it with Milgaard's DNA could exonerate him. The semen profile could ultimately be catalogued in the crime-scene registry at Ottawa's DNA data bank. If Gail Miller's father realises and has his DNA tested, or if further investigation identifies him as a suspect and police obtain a warrant to test him, he may one day find himself in jail. That, which is, has a uneasy way of testing out justice.



Rabble-raising for the CBC

On a pre-election swing through Saskatchewan earlier this month, Jean Chrétien's motorcade was sitting at a stoplight when the Prime Minister spotted Lynn Hunsworth, a prominent broadcaster, rolling down her car window in the rear lane. Ever alert for those opportunities to mingle with the citizenry that he claims to enjoy, Chrétien opened his car door, apparently to receive a requested autograph. Instead, Hunsworth shook her fist like a soldier at a messenger of opportunity for the CBC. "I belatedly realized," Prime Minister: "We've already taken care of that." But Hunsworth, like other CBC devotees, was not to be mollified by his eleven-hour scramble for an extra \$50 million in last month's budget for the beleaguered radio network. "Not well enough," she recalls having told him as he ducked back into his limousine and sped off.

In fact, the Prime Minister is not alone in finding himself dogged by an issue that his politeness once assured him barely registered on the political radar. Since Canada's country, Liberal MPs have been besieged with phone calls and petitions demanding the party live up to its 1993 Red Book promise of stable multiparty funding for the public network. What seems to have caught strategists off guard is both the CBC supporters' passion and their implacability. These once public broadcasters have demanded, long pointed to make an effective liaison: proving that, when asked, they can raise the volume of dissent. In the process, they have re-energized the government that, while not the start to take to the barricades, they are intent to carry their grievances to the ballot box.

Over the past three months, 40 Liberal MPs have joined their colleagues blasted by wind and white linen signs—a pointed echo of the party's own electoral colors—reading: "The CBC—keep the promise." Transport Minister David Anderson arrived twice in Victoria for the Christmas season to confront 1,000 of them, including one ignoring from the reassured grounds of his neighbor, CBC news anchor John Diefenbaker. Orchestrated by the Toronto-based Friends of Canadian Broadcasting, the campaign

has targeted the Liberals' most vulnerable seats—among them the Halifax legislature where stalwart Mary Clancy is facing off against New Democratic Party Leader Alexa McDonough. Even Heritage Minister Sheila Copps was confronted with \$7,000 in radio ads that relayed her rhetorical flipside on the subject 10 times a day over a week for Atlantic voters.

But if Chrétien thought he had put the matter to rest with his emergency infusion



Pick's grassroots movement is taking hold

of \$20 million, he had clearly miscalculated. Randomly, in response from coast to coast, a grassroots protest movement is taking hold. Ironically, it owes its very strength and grit to the failure of the country's cultural establishment to get its act together. Last December, when a handful of Toronto women and shakers, including Master Barbara Hall and Nobel laureate Jutra Pelkey, launched a petition drive called CBC—Ours To Keep, their efforts promptly foundered in organizational chaos. Finally, when nothing seemed to be happening, the CBC's wondrous formal look uniform into their own hands.

In Saskatoon, newspaper Brenda Butler was so outraged by the loss of regional programming that she launched a petition, setting up shop at concerts and the university to collect an estimated 25,000 names to date. "Out here, the CBC isn't just a national broadcaster," she says. "We think of it as a provincial and center too. It's absolutely critical." In Moncton, artist Brenda Sheering signed on for more personal reasons. Seven years ago, newly arrived from Montreal, she

found herself marooned in an isolated New Brunswick farmhouse with her two-month-old daughter screaming incessantly from colic. "I didn't know anybody. I didn't have a car and I wouldn't see another living adult for days at a time," she recalls. "The only thing that kept my sanity was the CBC." Now, having gathered 5,000 signatures in a single weekend, Sheering calls it "payback time."

But the most ambitious effort has been choreographed by Nigel Pick, a middle-aged Vancouver manufacturer of computer cases, whose example might give the government pause. At 41, with no previous history of political involvement, Pick has spent more than \$3,000 collecting 28,000 names—some from as far away as Nova Scotia's Mahone Bay. With a 15-page short called *Light a Fire in Your Community*, Pick has metamorphosed into a reluctant rabble-rouser. At a town hall forum hosted by Vancouver MP Anna Toppas last month, he was assailed to find himself warning that unless the Liberals restored CBC funding, he would feel obliged to work against her re-election. "I just know about doing it," Pick confesses. "But I wanted this idea to see if the opposition wasn't lying about it."

On the contrary, it appears to be gaining momentum, galvanised by a newly resuscitated Ours To Keep operation in Toronto. If that momentum has so far escaped prominent national media attention, eventually CBC management has tried to bludge. On Jan. 31, the vice-presidents of both radio and television networks advised employees it would be "unacceptable" for them to join in promoting the protests. Conversely, another internal memo the following day authorized no such reference in lobbying for a new CBC PM suit. But that very corporate silence has spoken volumes to supporters. "It's as if they're all been sworn to the Oath of Secrecy," James Saskatchewan activist Judy Haven. Still, the resulting backlash may prove nothing compared to the victory expected when comic shows such as *Monty Python* and regional fare are scheduled to be aired over the coming months, just as the election is likely to be called. At a time when voters are growing notably unsupportive of the Prime Minister, any find it increasingly difficult to lose out on newswomen voices



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Aches and pains, a little stiffness. They're just a normal part of aging, right? Not for Edna Scott. When muscle weakness began to slow her down, the 81-year-old grandmother followed her doctor's advice and signed up for a strength training course at Ottawa's Carleton University. At first, the fitness centre's massive exercise machines—loaded with heavy metal chains, clanging weights and pulleys—intimidated the petite, five-foot senior. But she persevered, followed an instructor through a series of warming exercises and started a modest regime with two-pound weights. That was three years ago. Now, pumping iron is a twice-weekly routine for Scott—as well as for several fellow residents of her retirement home who were so impressed with her new status that they decided to lift dumbbells along with her. “We do arm curls and work on our biceps and triceps,” explains Scott, who has progressed to eight-pound weights. “It helps the seniors tremendously—and I have more energy, strength and better balance.”

Weightlifting encourages life. Scott has little chance of an interest in building up like senior Schwarzeneggers, but they are shattering the myth that aging leads to inevitable physical decline. The first scientific studies showing that resistance training can reverse muscle loss and recover strength in healthy seniors appeared in the late 1980s. But it was a landmark paper pub-

lished in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 1994 that fired up the power of exercise. The authors, based at Harvard and Tufts universities in Massachusetts, found remarkable gains in elderly, frail and chronically ill nursing home residents after only 10 weeks of weight training. Most of the participants—aged 72 to 98—were then doubled their muscle strength. A few even discarded walkers and canes. Now, scientists are focusing on the potential of resistance training to reduce the risk of heart disease, osteoporosis and adult-onset diabetes, as well as to relieve arthritis symptoms and depression, and enhance the immune system in adults of all ages.

Still, to the dismay of many fitness experts, relatively few Canadians have responded to the growing body of evidence on strength training. “It’s increasing in popularity,” says Greg Poole, who helped set up Carleton’s program for seniors. “But there are still not enough people doing it.” According to the latest poll from the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute, 23 per cent of Canadians did some form of weight training in 1995, compared with a mere five per cent in 1991. Still, only one per cent of those aged 45 to 65 made the effort—and the numbers in the over-65 category were negligible.

And exercisers of all ages overemphasize

aerobics. “One problem is that people are all tied up with cardiovascular fitness,” says Eric Hamilton, a professor of kinesiology at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, B.C. “That is all well and good, but they neglect strength and it begins to fall off.” Many people mistakenly believe that walking is all they have to do to stay fit, says Poole. “But it’s not enough to delay the erosion of strength and muscle.” Heavy chores like shovelling snow or washing floors might help. “If you work hard at it,” that such tasks, he points out, typically involve too few muscles. “You wash the floor with one arm, not two.”

To stay strong, two types of muscle—slow-twitch and fast-twitch fibres—must be activated regularly. Slow-twitch fibres, used in normal daily activities, contract slowly and show remarkable endurance. Fast-twitch fibres—key to muscle strength—stick in for brief intervals, only with moderate to strenuous exertion, and they tend to disappear if they are not used. “Even a brisk walk will not use fast-twitch fibres,” notes Poole. “And if you don’t use it, you lose it.” In fact, the reason most people slow down as they age is that they lose about a third of their muscle mass by the age of 80.

But lost muscle can be regained—by almost anybody. “It used to be taboo for people with heart disease to lift weights because it was believed to graft blood pressure through the roof,” says Neil McCartney, a McMaster University kinesiologist, who practices strength training for cardiac patients. Heart patients, and others suffering from chronic conditions, such as osteoporosis, need supervision initially, he says, perhaps on individual “prescription.” But they can achieve significant health benefits from strength training, says McCartney. “In fact,” states Tufts University researcher Miriam Nelson in her new book, *Strong Women Stay Young*, “the weaker you are, the more you need it, and the more you need it, the more you get.”

Philip Sparsholtz, a 74-year-old retired Calgary professor, started his first regular strength training program two years ago, just a few months before a hip replacement. The training, he believes, speeded his recovery and gives him the energy for hiking and skiing. But, most importantly, he says, “It keeps my mind up. Physically, it’s a reward to death of getting old.” Spaulding, and other active seniors, are discovering that if strength training can’t turn back the clock, it can at least slow it down.

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Education

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A tycoon funds a centre for the study of foul play

BY STEVE CAMERON

Mark Nathanson is revered, clearly not used to questions about his life and his career. "I've lived in the shadows," he says. "Quietly." Not so quietly now. This week, at a ceremony in Toronto, Solicitor General Herb Gray will lead an international group of academics, politicians, judges, police officers and lawyers in a celebration of an extraordinary 53-million gift that Nathanson has made to Osgoode Hall Law School at York University. Its purpose: to fund the Jack and Adele Nathanson Centre for the Study of Organized Crime and Corruption. The centre, named after Nathanson's parents, is the only one of its kind in Canada, and has few counterparts anywhere in the world. And the man funding it is a tycoon in his own right. At 50, Nathanson, one of two children of a family that operated a wholesale grocery company in Selway, N.S., has quietly built an immense fortune with an impressive array of enterprises: from Africa gold mining to consumer electronics, and from intelligence equipment used by governments to an international forensic investigation company headed by his close friend and partner, Rod Stuenkel, former assistant commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. "I always wanted to be a policeman," says



Stuenkel (right), Nathanson: a who's who of criminal law

Nathanson, sitting in the opulent condominium in downtown Toronto that he visits a few weeks each year. "But I didn't want to live in a policeman's salary. I had to make some money first."

While Nathanson has built a business empire that spans the globe, the academic venture he now funding will study the ways in which the global economy has made both

economies and countries increasingly vulnerable to organized crime. "Canadians tend to believe the best of each other," says Osgoode Hall dean Marilyn Pilkington. "But they must adjust to be vulnerable through lack of awareness." To open immediately, the centre will be headed by York cross-country Margaret Beare, author of *Crossed*, *Comprehender*, *Organized Crime in Canada*, published last year. And its advisory board reads like a who's who of criminal law: Ward Elcock, director of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service; RCMP Commissioner Philip Murray; Toronto police Chief David Boothby; lawyers Edward Greenman and John Rosen (defence lawyer of convicted murderer Paul Bernardo), and Patricia Nesson, managing editor at the *Wall Street Journal*; Glenn Gosselin, and an expert on organized crime, who conceived the original idea for the centre.

Working with officials at York, that aggressive team has created an inter-disciplinary graduate centre that will offer up to eight fellowships a year to students in a range of disciplines, including law, criminology, sociology, economics and political science. Along with professors from across the university, students will investigate ways to improve the efforts of governments, police forces and private businesses to understand the world of organized crime. According to Beare, it is a world that increasingly crosses both international borders—and the more acrobatic divide between underworld operations and white collar activities. "When the Russian mafia first came to Canada, they relied on violence," notes Beare. "That is fast true now. Like any criminal group, it can substitute corruption for violence, and influence officials that way."

For Nathanson, the centre reflects an



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adding interest in the complexities of organized crime—and a fitting addition to a career that has spanned the globe. A dropout of St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, N.S., Nathanson, who now lives in the Bahamas with his wife, Maria, first moved abroad in 1971. From a base in England, he collected consumer electronics products across Europe. In 1985, he launched a business selling intelligence equipment in Africa. By the second half of the decade, he had founded a gold mining company in Mali whose discoveries include adjacent reserves estimated to contain eight million ounces. Today, International African Mining Gold Corporation, known as IAMGOLD, is exploring fields in three South American countries, and is involved in joint ventures exploring others in five African states.

In 1990, working with former RCMP assistant commissioner Standen, Nathanson established International FIA Holdings Ltd. (the acronym stands for Forensic Investigative Associates). Acting, in the words of Standen, "almost like a private Intelco," it searches out embassies and other white collar criminals, and traces and recovers stolen assets.

Then, in 1995, Nathanson and Standen started kicking around another idea, establishing an academic centre that could link experts, and develop further knowledge, in the shady world of which they were fast becoming hand-on experts. York, they decided, was a natural choice. Nathanson admired York's accomplishments in business, sociology, ethics and law. "For me," he says, "Osgoode Hall represents Canadian law."

For York, Nathanson's gift will create unique opportunities to blend those disciplines, and to consolidate several existing specialties. "We'll be drawing on Osgoode's strengths in criminal law, banking law and politics," explains Pilkington. The centre may also work on international legal assistance treaties and run programs on such topics as the growth of criminal activity on the Internet. Before long, says Pilkington, the centre plans to be drilling laws to respond to the problems of globalized criminal activity.

As the centre makes its mark on the world of crime, the man who has made it possible says he has no intention of putting his own stamp on its future direction. "All I asked for was the name, to honor my parents," says Nathanson. "I don't want any say in the program." But before getting back to the business of running the international empire he has quietly created, one of Canada's most private persons will be very publicly touted at the program's launch this week. There, police officers from Canada, the United States and Europe will take part in the center's first symposium—a panel discussion on organized crime—and pay tribute to a one-time aspiring policeman who is now Solving crime his own way. □

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For the Record Millennial dancing

U2 fills the spiritual vacuum with techno music

POP
U2 (blind/d&g)

At a recent squall on the series, U2's latest album kicks off with unsettling groans, anxious grunting and riveting pebbles. From the disquieting sounds of *Diskhouse*, Pop then careers into the rhythmic vice-grip of *The Zoo*. *Pop* is, which, despite its dreary, libretto words, is hardly soothing either. But nothing prepares the listener for what awaits them on the album's third track. Played at breakneck speed, with clattering metallic raves and swirling electronic effects, *Pop* is U2 at its most radical and disturbing. "Lookin' for a sound that's gonna drown out the world," Bono croons over the thundering backdrop. He needn't worry, he's already found it.

Leader and eager than anything the Irish band has produced to date, *Pop*—perfectly so. Its first three songs—suggests that the four members of U2 have been spending time at all-night warehouse raves, drawing from the cutting-edge, hypnotic dance sounds of techno, trance and trip-hop music. But *Pop* is more than just some aging rockers' attempt to keep up with musical trends. With its own concerns for things spiritual and superficial, the album seems perfectly suited to the twilight years of the 20th century.

Music is superficial in the extreme, revealing in the "pent shorts and southern accents/cigars and big hair" of America's latest capital. Similarly, *The Playboy Magazine*, a library about garage every one has. He has a pleasure palace, delights in listening the brand names of pop culture. These sound to be the best songs on the album, displaying a life-loving decadence that U2 first revealed on *Joshua Tree* and later explored on its elaborate *Zoo* TV tour.

Several members on *Pop* also deal with a crisis in faith, as if there cannot be decadence without penance. On *God Will Send the Angels*, a weary-sounding Bono wonders whether God would answer his



The Edge (left), Bono: "I sound that's gonna drown out the world"

phone calls if he could. And on *With or Without You*, he speculates that although Jesus is undoubtedly "looking out for us," he is probably far too busy to actually help. Both songs pick up where Joan Osborne's *One of Us* left off, attempting to fill the spiritual vacuum of the times by bringing God back down to earth.

But ultimately, it is the sonic onslaught that gives *Pop* its punch. Like David Bowie, whose influence can be heard on the album, U2 is proving itself adept at synthesizing the sounds of the dance underground for a more mainstream audience. The experiment may not sit well with some of the group's earlier, guitar-driven rock anthems—such classics as *Pride (In the Name of Love)* and *With or Without You*—but for lovers of adventurous, groove-oriented dance music it will go down just fine. In its constant quest to redefine itself, U2 has succeeded in coming up with a brave sound for the new millennium.

NICHOLAS JENNINGS

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Books

The wild, wild West

It was a pivotal event in Canadian history. In fact, David Crook and Alison Griffiths suggest in *The Great Adventure: How the Mounties Conquered the West* (Viking, \$22.00) that the creation of the North West Mounted Police and their arduous, 1,400-km march westward in 1874 may have been critical to the very existence of Canada. Had the Mounties not forged a relationship with the powerful Blackfoot Confederacy in what is now southern Alberta and Saskatchewan, they write, the Blackfoot might have joined the 1885 Red rebellion. And then Louis Riel would have triumphed, and much of the Prairies might now be a settled country.

But rather than dwelling such issues, *The Great Adventure* paints a vivid picture of the Prairie wilderness and the assortment of traders, laborers, military veterans and adventurers who conquered it. The book's success is due largely to the richness of the 13 chapters and finished accounts that the authors have deftly woven into their chronicle, including the writings of Col. George A. French, who led the force, and young recruits such as 15-year-old Frederick Augustus Bagley. He started out expecting to be "chasing whiskey traders and horse thieves, putting hostile savages, and bobolinking with laughing Indian princes and lonely unsympathetic Protestants." Instead, what Bagley and the others experienced was fatigue, insects, hunger, cold, stampedes and what Henry John, a young shambler on the trek, described as the monotony of the "blue sky above or the brown earth below."

Amid the anecdotes, the authors offer some important historical details—such as a page-long re-creation of the Cypress Hills massacre of June 1873. American wolf hunters in this period of stolen horses took out their frustration on some Assiniboine camped at the water's edge: southwestern Saskatchewan. The watercraftmen that at least 100 were killed. "The old Indian, Wakkanas, sat slumped on the ground, barely protesting as the men locked and clubbed him to death," they write. "Bawling out a parody of the war whoop, the whites whacked his head off, drove a lodge pole through it and planted it in the centre of the camp."

The manuscript grabbed the government's first Minister's attention at Lower Fort Garry (near Winnipeg) last year. Fortunately for readers, these Mounties went on to write vividly of their long march.

MARY NICHOLS

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Dalton Camp

Can we tell the kids about Trudeau now?

Surviving the dial of my portable digital clock 196-AM radio Longinus Semaphoric the other day, I came upon the CBC's good music station. What caught my ear was not a Brahms quartet but the dulcet tones of friend Richard Gwyn, singing the praises of Pierre Elliott Trudeau, 10th prime minister of Canada, lapidist, humanist, and the only Canadian prime minister to have been driven to school as a child in a chauffeurless limo.

The shaft of legend, Trudeau is enjoying his first reveal, the event marked by two plays, a new one written largely out of his own speeches and writings, and a second, *Magnus and Pierre*, a revival which apparently relies more on an inspired creativity.

As I tuned in on Gwyn and the two playwrights, one of the latter was reading a familiar Trudeau soliloquy on autochthon. Those who remember Trudeau hear him speaking to you voice—as if through the teeth—or in pedantic rhythms, as if bewitched by the need to explain the obvious to the impervious. But he wrote with great lucidity and energy a master of hyperbole and vivid fabrication.

On the possibility of Quebec choosing independence, he wrote: "This ultimate tragedy would be in not realizing that the French Canada is too culturally monic, too economically occluded, too intellectually retarded, too spiritually pusillid, to be able to survive more than a couple of decades of stagnation, enervating herself of all her vitality into nothing less a corpse, the primer of her autocratic vitality and identity."

As political scientist Denis Scott observed, not successfully, "Such coarseness, such contempt . . . such intolerance must be charged with the very absolutism Mr. Trudeau attributes to his antagonists."

OK, but the question would make for a better ending for some Trudeau on autochthon, on independence, on Quebec, could always say the laconic Anglo-Quebecers, they loved to hear him talk like Billy Harry. "Just watch me," he told the media on the eve of the denunciation, during the "supercalifragilistic" "It was like, 'Mide my day'."

This renewed interest in Trudeau is a celebration of the style that was the essence of the man, his sartorial flamboyance, his mastery of the chiffré, the joyous-face directness, the dandy smile on a self-yearning smile, with vertical finger. All that and more. One of the playwrights profiles his affliction—a great comicist and dicer, she said.

Alain Fotheringham is on mission. Dalton Camp is an author, political columnist and frequent commentator on radio and television.

Gwyn, in an effort to sharpen the focus, reminds the playwrights, and the listening audience, that Trudeau was not much of an economist, that he left the country deep in debt, that there quickly followed a surrealizing passage, from the script of Margaret Porter. It is a scene that finds the couple in love, of a Sunday morning speaking of the Just Society. What else?

In the ensuing dialogue, Pierre clues that he might tomorrow go to the House of Commons, adjourn the proceedings, then dispatch hon members to the banks of the Rideau Canal where, having removed their clothes, all would be skinny-dipping, sherry-sipping. I am not making this up—reading love with assembled spouses, friends, and whoevers.

Sunday morning businessmen may have been a tradition at 24 Sussex, like hipsters, but I suspect dramatic licence at work here on the details. However, since the author has no business in the bedrooms of the state, who knows?

A wickedly appealing public man, Pierre Trudeau was cerebral, angular, suspicious, fun to watch, an electrical aphrodisiac. But he left the economy in traction and the state of the country in unknown care. It was said at these moments at these noted dramatic generalizations that, for many, Trudeau was stronger well before their time. They know no more about him than of Robert Borden. But do we all agree it's now time to tell the children? And when they find out—what will they think of us?

We had been, before the Trudeau years, on a hero hunt. What then country needed, signs advised, were Canadian heroes. There were problems. We couldn't make a hero of Louis-Joseph Papineau, Michel's illustrious father, because he died in bed. "The

ones should be young and not in bed."

Giving us no fading true heroes, we turned to celebrity. A nice thing about that was you could be a celebrity without killing yourself blowing up a money offshore, or excelling in physics. For most of heroes, celebrity would do nicely. It suspended critical judgment and avoided contest. It did not promise immortality, but in a world in which anyone could be famous for 15 minutes, celebrity promised a long run to those who had the right stuff.

Trudeau became our first celebrity in the media age of instant fame. He couldn't sing, dance, run with a ball or his own, but he could act. People were charmed by him—men admired, women adored, and journalists decried as him. He was truly the first media darling and television's first invention of a politician. Still with us, his celebrity only somewhat faded, he remains a product of our narcissism, and of our inability to search for substance in the power of his light.



Trudeau in 1972, an electrical aphrodisiac



HOW THE GAME OF ICE HOCKEY WAS INTRODUCED TO THE COUNTRY OF SOUTH AFRICA.



Calgary International Airport, 3:00 p.m.

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Sixteen kids, sixteen airline tickets and sixteen tiny hearts set on winning their international hockey tournament in Copenhagen.

Little did I know, the entire competition would be Murphy's Law.
Copenhagen, 6:00 a.m.

"Our luggage is delayed!" I asked. "We arriving tomorrow via—
South Africa," the export clerk explained politely. "Though it's game we're in South Africa," I smiled through clenched teeth.

Lost! Sporting Goods, 1:00 p.m.

No idea to see the shopkeeper was pleasantly surprised to see an entire hockey team being notified with brand new equipment.

But he was dead calm compared with my little guys who riled through the new gear like it was hotcakes all around. As I watched them I thought my lucky stars for Visa Gold card's purchasing power. I never thought I'd have to use it, but then again I never thought I'd need half the added benefits that come with my Visa Gold card. I guess the best defense

against Murphy's Law is never say never. That and, not as I was breathing a sigh of relief, young Jeremy, or Rachel as he prefers, tagged on my coat tails.



De Jahn's Office, 2:00 p.m.

It seemed that Rachel's extreme underwear refusal was strategically timed in his hockey bag which, of course, was somewhere over Algiers at this point. I called up the Visa Gold hotline and they gave me a bit of English speaking doctors. Rachel got his underwear re-filled and we headed for the rink.

Copenhagen Sports Arena, 6:00 p.m.

As the kids took to the ice and I removed the few remaining price tags from their helmets, I celebrated our first victory—we had beaten old Murphy. And the first star of the game, la premiere étoile, was definitely my Visa Gold card. But then again, I guess that's why they say "it's the only card you need."



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